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14 December 1983

## LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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## CONTENTS

## ENERGY ECONOMICS

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

- Trintoc Profits Down \$76 Million in 1980 Over 1979  
(TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 28 Oct 83)..... 1

## COUNTRY SECTION

## INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

- Journalist Singh Offers Critical Account of Grenada Events  
(Ricky Singh; CARIBBEAN CONTACT, Nov 83)..... 2

- Briefs  
Barbados-Trinidad Disagreement 5

## BARBADOS

- Government Hopeful Exports to U.S. Will Now Increase  
(BARBADOS ADVOCATE, 27 Oct 83)..... 6

- Reaction to Intervention in Grenada From Press, Labor  
(THE NATION, 26 Oct 83; BARBADOS ADVOCATE,  
29 Oct 83)..... 7

NATION Warning to GDM, Editorial  
Workers' Union Concern

- Text of Adams' 26 October Broadcast on Grenada  
(THE NATION, 27 Oct 83)..... 9

Talks in Trinidad Seek To Aid Ailing Local Industry (THE NATION, 2 Nov 83).....	15
Five-Member Mission Local Impact on Workers	
More Marketing Outlets Needed for Farm Products (BARBADOS ADVOCATE, 4 Nov 83).....	17
Sixty Local Policemen Join Area Security Force in Grenada (BARBADOS ADVOCATE, 27 Oct 83).....	18
BRAZIL	
Economists Forecast Deepening Recession in First Half of 1984 (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 24 Nov 83).....	19
Figueiredo's Comment on Preference for Direct Elections Viewed (Carlos Chagas; O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 18 Nov 83).....	21
Confusion in Cabinet Reflects Lack of Government (Carlos Chagas; O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 20 Nov 83).....	24
Guerreiro Discusses Figueiredo Trip to African Nations (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 26 Nov 83).....	27
Briefs	
Coal From PRC	29
Libyan Interest in Arms, Ships	29
COLOMBIA	
Bank of the Republic Manager on Foreign Debt (Hugo Palacios Mejia; EL SIGLO, 10 Nov 83).....	30
M-19 Commander on Significance of Madrid Dialogue (EL ESPECTADOR, 10 Nov 83).....	33
PCC Supports Betancur Dialogue With Guerrillas (EL ESPECTADOR, 18 Oct 83).....	35
Briefs	
FARC Kidnappers in Custody	37
M-19 Group Pre-empts Broadcast	37



## CUBA

Conference on Contradictions Between U.S., Latin America (GRANMA, 19 Oct 83).....	38
Perez Herrero Opens Conference, by Nidia Dias Perez Herrero Speech, by Antonio Perez Herrero	
Lawyer Denies Church Persecuted Since Revolution (Raul Gomez Treto; PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO, Aug 83).....	46

## ECUADOR

Central Bank on Public, Private Foreign Debt Refinancing (EL UNIVERSO, 18 Oct 83).....	50
Socialist Party To Participate in Coming Elections (EL UNIVERSO, 17 Oct 83).....	54
Efforts To Form Center-Left Front Reportedly Fail (EL COMERCIO, 17 Oct 83).....	55
Briefs Negative Growth Rate	57

## EL SALVADOR

Health Minister Reviews Problems in East (LA PRENSA GRAFICA, 5 Nov 83).....	58
Police Director Addresses Indian Congress (EL MUNDO, 28 Oct 83).....	60

## GRENADA

Nation Interviews Gairy, Who Wants To Form Interim Government (THE NATION, 27 Oct 83).....	62
Stories Emerge From Witnesses to 19 October Events (THE NATION, 4 Nov 83; SUNDAY SUN, 6 Nov 83).....	64
Attack on Pro-Bishop Crowd Bishop's Death Immigration Officer's Account	
Seaga Says No One Had Scoon Letter Requesting Intervention (BARBADOS ADVOCATE, 5 Nov 83).....	68

## JAMAICA

Manley Dissects Grenada Invasion Point by Point (SUNDAY SUN, 6 Nov 83).....	69
--	----

## MEXICO

Japanese Unhappy With Law on Foreign Investments (Antonio Garza; EXCELSIOR, 11 Oct 83).....	72
Founding of Japanese In-Bond Companies Being Discussed (Antonio Garza M.; EXCELSIOR, 12 Oct 83).....	74
Chiapas Land Said Given to PSUM-, CIOAC-Controlled Groups (LA VOZ DEL SURESTE, 5 Oct 83).....	75
Church Figures Address Social, Political Issues (EXCELSIOR, 7 Oct 83; UNOMASUNO, 7 Oct 83).....	76
Bishop Talamas on Corruption, by Federico Ortiz Jr. Talamas Backs Nicaraguan Revolution, by Teresa Gil Views on Situation in Chiapas, by Teresa Gil	
Growing Concerns Over Public Safety Indicated (EXCELSIOR, various dates).....	79
Police Chief's Appeal on Firearms, by Ignacio Herrera, Jorge Espinosa Neighborhood Roads Closed, by Alfredo Ramos R. More Streets Closed Off	
Briefs Central Americans 'Land Grabbers' Diminished Veracruz Corn Cultivation Reduced Cultivation in Baja California	

## NICARAGUA

French Journalists Describe Situation in North (Eric Venturini, Alain Hertoghe; REVOLUTION, 4-10 Nov 83).....	85
---	----

## ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MNU Views Invasion of Grenada as 'Unwarranted' (THE VINCENTIAN, 28 Oct 83).....	92
NDP Leader Mitchell Comments on Party's Prospects (THE NATION, 27 Oct 83).....	93

CATO Rules Out Talks With Business on Turnover Tax (THE NATION, 27 Oct 83).....	95
CATO Denies Opposition Leader's Charges of Corruption (THE NATION, 27 Oct 83).....	96
Briefs Plans for Grenadines	97
VENEZUELA	
Conindustria To Discuss Economic Measures With Candidates (EL UNIVERSAL, 10 Nov 83).....	98
Central Bank Expected To Purchase PDVSA Bonds (EL UNIVERSAL, 10 Nov 83).....	99
Tourism Minister Issues National Security Council Communique (EL DIARIO DE CARACAS, 8 Nov 83).....	101
Military Industry Reportedly Expanding (Martha Aray G.; EL DIARIO DE CARACAS, 10 Nov 83).....	103
Briefs Caldera on BCV, BTV	106

TRINTOC PROFITS DOWN \$76 MILLION IN 1980 OVER 1979

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 28 Oct 83 p 4

[Text]

The Trinidad and Tobago Oil Company Limited (Trintoc) earned a net income after tax of \$195.8 million for 1980 compared with \$271.8 million for 1979, according to the latest annual report published by the oil company.

In Trintoc's 1980 report, Mr. Walton F. James, the oil company's managing director, said that the 1980 earnings were transferred to retained earnings for reinvestment in the company following expectations of a high level of capital and exploration expenditure that was expected for the preceding three to four years (1983/1984).

#### LOWER MARGINS

He said that the 1980 net income of the company fell by \$76 million from that of 1979 mainly due to lower margins on trading caused by the steeper rise in international crude oil prices.

Mr. James said these prices on which the company's crude oil purchases are based, the continued effects of inflation on operating costs and expenses and higher taxation payable on the company's operations.

Although net income before tax declined marginally from \$440.7 million in 1979 to \$424.5 million in 1980, taxation payable rose from \$168.9 million in 1979 to \$255.5 million in 1980, said the managing director.

According to Mr. James, refinery throughput in that year averaged 54,741 barrels daily, an increase of 3,103 barrels daily, due mainly to a drawdown of high crude oil stocks as there was a drop both in the company's own crude oil production and in crude oil purchases.

He said, product sales at 52,787 barrels daily for 1980 resulting in a product stock build were marginally below the 1979 level.

#### PRICES INCREASED

No crude oil was soled in 1980, said Trintoc's managing director.

He added that product prices increased in 1980 resulting in sales proceeds rising from \$1,063.5 million in 1979 to \$1,360.5 million in 1980.

According to Mr. James, capital and exploration expenditure for 1980 amounted to \$114.0 million compared with \$89.1 million for the preceding year.

## JOURNALIST SINGH OFFERS CRITICAL ACCOUNT OF GRENADA EVENTS

Bridgetown CARIBBEAN CONTACT in English Nov 83 p 4

[Article by Ricky Singh, Editor, Caribbean Contact]

[Text]

**I AM making the following analysis of the military invasion of Grenada by United States and some Caribbean nations at the request of the Editor of THE NATION, and I am doing so as Editor of Caribbean Contact:**

(This article originally appeared in *The Nation* on Oct. 25)

BRIDGETOWN, October 25. Today is a dark day in the history of the Commonwealth Caribbean. This invasion of Grenada, an independent nation and member of the Caribbean Community by the United States military, in collaboration with some Caricom Governments, cannot be justified on any legal or moral ground. A dangerous precedent has been set that could have far-reaching implications for the future peace and security of the entire Caribbean.

The United States Government of President Ronald Reagan, which has never made any secret of its opposition to the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in St. George's under then Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop, has chosen the tragic period of Bishop's murder, at the hands of his own comrades, to implement a plan long conceived by the White House and the Pentagon.

The opportunity for United States military intervention has been made possible because, as the Reagan Administration

knew, the masses of Grenadian people are currently paralysed with shock and grief over the brutal slaying of Maurice Bishop and some of his most outstanding colleagues. Their deaths resulted directly over an internal dispute within the ruling New Jewel Movement on the question of sharing of the party's leadership with the former Deputy Prime Minister, Bernard Coard.

In addition to the fact that the United States government was fully aware of the division of the people and that section of the People's Revolutionary Army (PRA) that had betrayed Bishop, it was also informed about Cuba's own neutral stand at this time on developments in Grenada.

It, therefore, moved, with the help of some governments of the Caribbean Community, including Barbados, Jamaica, Antigua, St. Lucia, Dominica, St. Vincent and St. Kitts, to achieve in Grenada the same objective it has set itself for Nicaragua.

Unsubstantiated reports about Russian troops in Grenada, published yesterday in a section of the local media, was all part of a massive propaganda campaign, orchestrated by the United States Embassy in Bridgetown.

One local radio station actually carried reports that Bishop was seen being escorted onto a Cuban vessel in St.

George's harbour. At that same time, Bishop's mother was seeing him at the Prime Minister's residence where he was then being held under house arrest.

The Cuban statement, disassociating the Castro Government from any involvement in the leadership struggle within the NJM, and its own position to take a neutral stand, at first robbed the United States-inspired propaganda machinery of some fuel. It later perhaps influenced the decision to invade while Cuba was still determining what, if any involvement, should there be on the side of the Grenadian people, among whom were over 300 of its own citizens, most of them workers at the new airport site.

The governments of Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize and The Bahamas, as well as the Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC) had, days before last night's unprovoked and unwarranted invasion, made it abundantly clear that they were opposed to any military involvement in Grenada. Calls for a fact-finding mission by some Caricom heads were ignored by those bent on helping the United States to invade Grenada.

These governments, and the CCC, deserve to be commended for displaying an awareness of the implications of involving the military of a superpower in actively overthrowing a regime, whether or not installed at the point of a gun, in the Caribbean.

None of the Caricom governments which has exercised its right to collaborate with President Reagan in the invasion of Grenada, has been able to inform its own people of any possible threat to its own security as a consequence of developments in Grenada.

There is no proof whatsoever that Barbados, for instance, which has been used as a sort of "coordinating centre" for the military invasion of Grenada, was at any time under any threat to its own sovereignty.

At least this has not been stated by those in authority. The same position applies to Jamaica, Antigua and others.

Amazingly, the Prime Minister of Dominica, Eugenia Charles, was at the side of President Reagan this morning at the White House in a joint Press conference to justify the military invasion.

While they were talking to the media in Washington, an American radio station, styled "Radio 1580", was broad-

casting from Grenadian soil, appealing to Grenadians to resist the Grenadian military and to "cooperate with friendly" troops in restoring "democracy".

A short time later, a group calling itself the Grenada Democratic Movement, long accused by Bishop and Coard of having direct links with the United States in a plot to overthrow the PRG, was gleefully declaring here on local radio, its appreciation for the invasion forces.

The original pretext by the United States to invade Grenada was "concern for the safety" of its nationals on the Caribbean island.

Well, the White House was informed at least two days ago, by the Vice-Chancellor of the St. George's Medical School, Dr. Geoffrey Bourne, which operates in the vicinity of the new airport project at Point Salines, that of the estimated 700 medical students there, only ten percent (10 percent) wished to leave, and only "for a temporary period!"

Local and foreign radio stations were reporting up to last night that there were chartered flights by LIAT, Aero Services, etc into Grenada to fly out foreign citizens who wished to leave. The Revolutionary Military Council (RMC) in St. George's permitted this to happen.

The curfew had been lifted; business houses were back in operation; people were about their normal businesses and workers were at their places of work. All these were confirmed by independent sources here in Barbados and in Grenada.

No foreign national had been killed up to yesterday. All lives lost during last week's tragedy at Fort Rupert were those of Grenadian citizens.

The question, therefore, needs to be asked. Since foreign citizens, including Americans, were in no danger, and very few of them wished to leave, did the United States, in collaboration with some Caricom governments, used the occasion of the Grenadian people's grief over the murder of Bishop, to launch a military invasion? It fits into United States immediate and long-term objectives for the Caribbean and Central America.

The Reagan Administration has been made very happy by those Caricom governments which have helped it, and are even now doing so, with propaganda and other

resources, including the use of their security/military forces to invade Grenada.

Latest indications suggest that these governments and the United States are already involved in initiatives with Grenadian nationals, who have always been opposed to both Bishop and Coard and the entire PRG, in the formation of a so-called "friendly" and "democratic government" in Grenada.

The United States Embassy in Bridgetown admitted to the Press here yesterday that it had received a communication from the RMC informing it that the military did not wish to stay in power and that within ten to 14 days, they were going to set up a caretaker civilian government, to pursue a policy of a mixed economy, while efforts would be made to hold fresh general elections.

The RMC also warned the United States not to invade Grenada since this would lead to unnecessary bloodshed. It said that the diplomatic representatives who had been allowed by the RMC to visit Grenada and to directly communicate with their respective nationals were fully aware of their safety and that they were under no threat.

We are left to wonder about the consequences if the Castro

government had also decided, in the interest of "protecting its citizens", to send a battleship into the Grenadian waters?

The military invasion of Grenada is a violation of the United Nations Charter and represents a contradiction of the stand taken by some of the very Caricom governments, including Barbados and Antigua, and Jamaica which, officially anyway, have been telling us that they support the Contadora Group's position on a negotiated settlement of the turmoil in Central America and Nicaragua in particular.

From what President Reagan has been saying this morning to the United States media, with Prime Minister Charles at his side, he is seeking to justify the military invasion of Grenada on the basis of the Treaty of the seven-member Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), dealing with defence and security.

Signed in St. Kitts in 1981 by the heads of government of these Caribbean islands, including the late Maurice Bishop, this Treaty, however, makes it abundantly clear that the rule of "unanimity" must be applied. Grenada was not a party to the decision to invade, and, therefore, the action taken according to some legal minds, constitutes a violation of Article 8 of the OECS Treaty.



## BRIEFS

BARBADOS-TRINIDAD DISAGREEMENT--A Government Press release said last night that contrary, to reports appearing in the press on October 27, 1983, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago had been informed that a plan for military intervention in Grenada was being contemplated by Eastern Caribbean States and Barbados. The release said: "On Friday, October 21, Trinidad and Tobago's High Commissioner to Barbados paid a visit to Mr. J.M.G. Adams, Prime Minister of Barbados, and Mr. Adams explained to the High Commissioner that he would be unable to attend the Heads of Government meeting in Port-of-Spain since military action was being contemplated, and that his constant presence would be required in Barbados. The High Commissioner was asked to convey this to Prime Minister Chambers. "Further, during the course of the Caribbean Heads of Government meeting held on Saturday, October 22, in Trinidad, at the invitation of Prime Minister Chambers as present Chairman of CARICOM and over which he presided, the matter was again raised and discussed at length." [Text]  
[Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 29 Oct 83 p 1]

CSC: 3298/176



## GOVERNMENT HOPEFUL EXPORTS TO U.S. WILL NOW INCREASE

Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 27 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] Minister of Trade, Mr. Bernard St. John, is hopeful that now that there is a more preferential arrangement for exports to the United States that Barbados exports to that country would increase.

Speaking yesterday shortly after receiving the 1983 Annual Report of the Barbados Export Promotion Corporation, Mr. St. John noted that some companies have already demonstrated that they could export to the U.S. under the existing Generalised System of Preferences.

The Trade Minister, in a brief statement, said Barbados has filed all documentation required for designation as a beneficiary under the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the U.S. trade and aid package to the region.

He said that subject to the scrutiny of that application, he was confident that there should be no difficulty in this island being designated.

"This provides an opportunity to continue to expand in a much larger market," Mr. St. John said in the presence of EPC Board Members.

But he noted that more grant of access did not necessarily mean that advantage will be taken of that access, adding that "our experience of the Lome Convention has indicated this."

Mr. St. John said that Government has been under tremendous pressure over the last two years in respect of allocation of resources. He pointed to the need for a balance between borrowing and revenue collection and expenditure.

CSO: 3298/177

REACTION TO INTERVENTION IN GRENADA FROM PRESS, LABOR

NATION Warning to GDM

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 26 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial]

[Excerpts]

**THE reality of the invasion of Grenada has now struck the Caribbean and the World.**

Meanwhile the wider world community will watch with interest to see whether a Grenada restored to a semblance of legitimacy will live up to the principles so long denied it.

When the crunch comes, it is always a test of whether love of the possession of power outweighs the need for a fair distribution of justice and respect for human rights.

There is one matter that disturbs us at this time of crisis. It is the antics of the Grenada Democratic Movement. Theirs is a campaign for power even before the bodies of the murdered Grenadians have been laid to rest.

We invite the Grenada Democratic Movement to curb their exuberance. We heard very little of them in Bishop's halcyon days. We say to them: Take it easy!

In the light of the various positions taken by international organisations, the leaders of the Caribbean, who supported the invasion of Grenada will wish to take the people into their confidence.

We sense that here in Barbados, Government's action has majority support. However we must caution that there is underlying concern about the future of the military in our island — a concern heightened by recent events.

A military presence is necessary, but we must never lose our sense of proportion.

## Workers' Union Concern

Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 29 Oct 83 p 3

[Text]      The Barbados Workers' Union said yesterday that it was conscious of the tragic circumstances that forced Caribbean Governments to meet last week and reach a decision on action to assist the people in strife-torn Grenada.

as one demanding their prompt attention". BWU General Secretary, Mr Frank Walcott, said in a brief statement yesterday.

But Mr Walcott added that the BWU was, however, concerned about the serious principle of military intervention and expressed the Union's disapproval for such action as The INITIAL STEP to be taken by the Governments of the region to resolve the problem facing the people of Grenada.

"We are aware of the serious repercussions that will flow from this military intervention", Mr. Walcott said.

"We feel gratified that they regarded the matter

CSO: 3298/177

## TEXT OF ADAMS' 26 OCTOBER BROADCAST ON GRENADA

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 27 Oct 83 pp 16-17

[Text]

**PRIME** Minister Tom Adams broke his silence last night on the Grenada crisis after keeping Barbadians for one hour and 48 minutes anxiously awaiting his nation-wide broadcast.

No reason was given by Mr. Adams for the delay of his broadcast.

But in his 22-minute speech, he recalled the events of the past two weeks, which he said had shaken the Caribbean, and caused this region to attract the attention of the world in a "stark and violent" way.

He analysed and described for the benefit of the nation, neighbours and those outside of the Caribbean, the circumstances that had led to the joint action taken in the last few days to restore law and order and constitutional government in Grenada, and a measure of peace and security in our part of the Caribbean.

**THE SPEECH IN FULL**

**GOOD** evening:

The days that have passed since October 13, 1983 have been longer than the Ten days that shook the World, as the Russian Revolution of October 1917 was described, and while certainly not so spectacular, they have surely made up two weeks that have shaken the Caribbean. The governments of our islands have been forced to consider unprecedented situations and ultimately some of us have agreed on seeking logical and necessary, but unprecedented solutions. We have attracted the attention of the world in a stark, indeed a violent way far removed from the familiar pattern of Caribbean tourism and industrialisation, services and social welfare, hard work and enterprise that has comprised the main interests of our governments for 20 years and more.

How has all this come about? This evening I want to analyse and describe for the benefit of our nation, our neighbours and those outside the Caribbean, the circumstances that have led to the joint action taken in the last few days to restore law, order and constitutional government in Grenada and a measure of peace and security in our part of the Caribbean.

Some disturbance in the Eastern Caribbean could safely be predicted after the Grenada coup of March.

1979 A constitutional government was overthrown by force, an unprecedented event in our islands; and a new regime having been recognised on the basis that elections would be held to legitimise it. Such elections were not held. Instead Grenada moved in a direction that introduced Great Power confrontation into the Eastern Caribbean. When after three or four years, the regime of Maurice Bishop, in the words of the **New York Times** began "to drift towards moderation" this aroused ideological passions in the bosom of his Party, passions which soon consumed Bishop and Party alike.

The timetable of the resulting explosion, from Barbados' point of view is easy to reconstruct. On Friday, October 14 our Foreign Ministry was informed by a friendly diplomatic source — not the United States — that, following ideological disagreement, Maurice Bishop had been placed under house arrest and that Bernard Coard would be taking over as Prime Minister. This was apparently announced in St. George's, but was very badly received by the Grenadian people. I considered that house arrest of a Prime Minister was an act so extreme as to imply some measure of imminent violence and disorder and when that afternoon I was notified that Unison Whiteman, Grenada's Foreign Minister, was in Barbados intransit to Grenada I made arrangements to speak to him on the telephone. I suggested to him that it might not be safe to return home and that he would be welcome to stay in Barbados, indeed to have political asylum if he wished. We spoke cordially, but he declined my offer and returned home, that afternoon.

A further day of confusion in Grenada followed, while some of us discussed the situation. I concluded that, whatever our differences in the past, Mr. Bishop deserved the support of Caribbean governments in the circumstances and sought opinion on whether he could be got out of the hands of his enemies and the situation given an opportunity to stabilise. On this day also, Saturday, October 15, an official of the Ministry of Defence and Security reported to me that he had been tentatively approached by a United States official about the prospect of rescuing Maurice Bishop from his captors and had been made an offer of transport. This raised a number of questions: Would the regime perhaps allow Bishop to leave and go into exile? If not, would Bishop wish to be rescued? There were many other political prisoners in Grenada, put there by Bishop's government. It would clearly not have been right to attempt to save Bishop but ignore the detainees, some of whom had spent more than four years behind bars. This was a point put especially strongly by Prime Minister Cato of St. Vincent and the Grenadines when I approached him about the matter as one of the Heads of Government of the member countries of our regional Security Pact. I spoke also to other Pact members and to officials of two friendly non-Caribbean countries, and took the advice of Colonel, now Brigadier Lewis the Regional Security Coordinator. Talks about a possible rescue were commenced and continued.

Further days of confusion followed in Grenada. There were marches, arrests and detentions and then on Tuesday, October 18, Unison Whiteman gave a telephone interview to the media in Barbados in-

dicating his support for Mr. Bishop's restoration to office as Prime Minister. Some of us in Government discussed the matter and some considered that Mr. Bishop would return to power and all would be well. I feared that Mr. Whiteman had signed his own death warrant. And so it eventually proved.

But before that, an emergency meeting of the Barbados Cabinet was held on Wednesday, October 19, to consider what steps should be taken to deal with the obviously deteriorating situation. It was agreed to proceed with a rescue plan, in collaboration with Eastern Caribbean countries and larger non-Caribbean countries with the resources necessary to carry out such an intricate operation. As we all now know, this proved to be in vain. While we were sitting in Cabinet the crowd rescued Bishop and led him unwittingly to his brutal death at the hands of his political opponents. Many of his Cabinet died with him. So did innocent men, women and children. Grenada descended into a brutal anarchy, with no government and no institutions other than those maintained by the whim of a gang of murderers.

The very next day, Thursday, October 20, I was telephoned by Prime Minister Compton of St. Lucia who expressed himself in the strongest possible terms that the situation in Grenada could not remain as it was and he proposed that there be a Caribbean initiative to intervene in Grenada on a multi-national basis to restore law and order and to lead the country to an early election. He emphasised that the entire Caribbean be invited to join and then to seek assistance in effecting our purpose. I agreed, and later that day the Cabinet of Barbados decided to support a multinational intervention in Grenada after Caribbean Leaders had had an opportunity of discussing the situation and of jointly initiating action.

To Prime Minister Compton fell the duty of requisitioning a meeting of Caribbean Heads of Government. He telephoned Prime Minister Chambers of Trinidad and Tobago, the current Chairman of the CARICOM Heads of Government, and asked him to summon a meeting of the Heads in Barbados. Prime Minister Chambers did not consult me, but summoned the meeting in Port-Of-Spain instead. Some confusion ensued, as in fact most people were summoned for both places, and since a telephone call to Trinidad for me to speak to Mr. Chambers was not received or at least not returned, it was only on Friday October 21 that Trinidad was finally selected as the venue. The OECS countries and Jamaica, however, all came to Barbados on the Friday October 21. During that day I saw the diplomatic representatives of four countries. I first saw the High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago and explained to him, in confidence for transmission to his Prime Minister, that I would be unable to attend the Caribbean heads of government the next day in Trinidad since a military intervention in Grenada was being contemplated by the OECS with Barbados and other countries in which the participation of all CARICOM countries would be invited. I told him that my presence would be absolutely necessary in Barbados to conduct negotiations with countries taking part, and also to take such decisions on the military

details as fell to the Chairman of the Defence Board.

At 12:30 p.m. I saw the British High Commissioner and told him also what was contemplated and that Britain would be invited to participate. I next saw the United States Ambassador and told him the same thing and that an invitation was likely to be extended to Britain. He undertook to convey the facts to President Reagan while awaiting a formal request should one be issued.

At 5 p.m. I saw the High Commissioner for Canada at his request, and discussed the situation in Grenada generally. He gave me the views of his Prime Minister and I responded. Although it had not been contemplated by those of us who had discussed the matter that Canada would have been invited, in deference to the outstandingly close relations of Canada and Barbados and the very high regard I have for Prime Minister Trudeau, I did tell the High Commissioner that my view of the Grenada situation was that the only solution was a military intervention.

That evening the OECS, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, with Montserrat held a meeting — first a formal meeting of their Ministers of Defence and then a meeting of their governing Authority, and unanimously agreed to invoke Article 8 of their Treaty of Association and to seek the assistance of friendly countries to stabilise the situation and to establish a peacekeeping force. It is important to note that neither Grenada nor any Eastern Caribbean country, including Barbados, although members of the Organisation of American States are signatories of the 1947 Rio Treaty and that the OAS is therefore ruled out as a peacekeeping body in our immediate area.

I was requested to attend the OECS meeting and issued with an invitation for Barbados to participate. I agreed within the terms of our Cabinet's decision. Troop numbers were settled and the staff of the Regional Security Organisation of which Barbados and most of the Eastern Caribbean States are members were deputed to do the necessary military planning.

I was then deputed by the OECS, formally to notify Britain and the United States, through their local diplomatic representatives of the decision and to make known our wish for their participation in the multinational force.

Later that evening, Prime Minister Eugenia Charles and I met Prime Minister Seaga of Jamaica, who on behalf of Jamaica accepted the invitation to participate, and jointly we formally invited the participation of the USA through its' ambassador whom I saw for a second time.

That night, as I later read in the Press, a United States Task Force bound for the Mediterranean was diverted to the Caribbean.

I have given these details at great length, since many accusations have been thrown about relating to the time of invitations and consultations. I trust that the facts will assist in the search for the truth. Next day, Saturday, October 22, I saw Prime Minister Price of Belize, who indicated that he did not wish to participate and could not in any event without the consent of the British Government, make any military commit-



ment for Belize. I again saw the British High Commissioner and made a fully formal verbal request, indicating that a document of invitation would follow. This document was eventually delivered on Monday morning.

No reply to the request for assistance was at first received from the United States but staff and planning talks between a general officer of the US Marine Corps, a senior officer of the Jamaica Defence Force and officers of the Regional Security Force were initiated.

I was informed, all through Saturday, October 22 and Sunday, October 23, that no decision had been taken by President Reagan and that although the planning might go forward no assumption should be made that the United States would agree to take part.

Meanwhile, in Port-of-Spain, the remaining Heads of Government were informed and a long and inconclusive debate ensued on the night of Saturday, October 22 until after 2 a.m. I made contact between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. in the morning with a number of the Heads and when the meeting resumed on Sunday morning the subject was not discussed further. Instead, by a majority of 11 to 1, the Heads agreed on sanctions against Grenada and to refer an agreed proposal for restructuring CARICOM to include human rights and democracy qualifications and to remove the strict unanimity rule in some areas, to the Regions' Attorneys-General for advice on how to effectuate it. The sole dissenter, Guyana indicated that it would not wish to participate in CARICOM II.

I may mention that my fears, and those of many of my regional colleagues as to the confidentiality of the Port-of-Spain meeting were fully realised. It was faithfully reported to the Press, and not by the Chairman, that the OECS were seeking support for a military intervention in Grenada, an act of at least indiscretion which led directly to the improvement of the defences of the island.

To the foregoing narrative should be added one theme which ran through all the planning. At all points it was agreed that the Governor-General of Grenada was the only constitutional authority remaining in the country, and the only one who in addition to any treaty rights which might and did exist could issue a formal invitation to foreign countries to enter Grenada to restore order. Accordingly, the participating countries have had no rights and the only one who in addition to the constitutional difficulty in deciding that he should be invested with formal authority as soon as his person should be secured — and this was made a number 1 priority at operations level.

Now that Sir Paul Scoon is safe, I can reveal that by the kind offices of a friendly Government, albeit non-participating government (not the USA,) his views were sought well before the military operations commenced on the issuing of an invitation to friendly countries to enter Grenada and restore order. According to my information Sir Paul agreed to do so as soon as possible. He has now given his sanction and Brigadier Lewis is in possession of his signed letter of invitation to the OECS and other participating governments. He will address



Grenadians tomorrow. The remainder of the story has of course been the subject of news constantly during the past few days. On Monday night, at 8.10 p.m. the American ambassador attended my residence and read out to me a formal note from President Reagan indicating that the United States could accept the invitation of the Organisation of Eastern States and participate in the intervention in Grenada. The intervention proceeded and has been successful.

An interim administration will soon be appointed and it is intended that the Elections Office in Barbados which has participated in the supervision of elections in Zimbabwe and Uganda, and has carried out computerised electoral registration programmes for Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent will do the same for Grenada. The Supervisor informs me that the job will take about three months. In three months or less after that we will expect the interim administration to hand over to an elected government. Grenada will have democracy after five years.

The pros and cons of the actions of the Caribbean Governments will long be debated. So will those of President Reagan in coming to our aid. But I think that history will agree with the verdict of public opinion in the Eastern Caribbean. There has seldom in these Islands been such virtual unanimous support in the media and at political and popular level for an action so potentially divisive. West Indians have shown that we have a view of our future that is democratic, peace-loving, devoted to constitutional and not arbitrary government. We have shown that we can cut through the sometimes artificial controversies generated by today's media and go right to the heart of things — what is best for our people. The United States and President Reagan have to their eternal credit concurred in our views and have come to the same conclusion as we have.

Finally a word of heart-felt thanks especially to you, the people of Barbados. You have responded magnificently and supported your country with a full measure of patriotism and loyalty. Your Defence Force, under its outstanding commander Brigadier Lewis and a team of fine officers and men has gone into action and our pride in its performance is equalled only by its industry and steadiness. All of us must be proud of the firm commitment we have shown to the preservation of the human values which we hold dear.

## TALKS IN TRINIDAD SEEK TO AID AILING LOCAL INDUSTRY

## Five-Member Mission

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 2 Nov 83 p 1

[Text]

A FIVE-MEMBER task force left Barbados yesterday for Trinidad to hold talks with officials in an attempt to avert more lay-offs and heavy financial losses in sectors of the manufacturing industry here.

The visit stems from the introduction on October 7, by Trinidad Prime Minister, George Chambers, of new Exchange Control Regulations governing all imports into that country.

Because of these regulations, Barbadian manufacturers not only have to get licences to export to Trinidad, but Central Bank approval as well, to show that there is foreign exchange available to pay for the goods.

A new Exchange Control form, described as "ECO", has been introduced. There has also been delays in issuing of licences to the Barbadian manufacturers.

This is resulting in a virtual stand-still in many sectors of the manufacturing industry in Barbados. Some firms are contemplating lay-offs, and have reported heavy financial losses.

A number of manufacturers have said that they regret this situation, at this time, particularly as the Christmas season is approaching.

The Barbadian manufacturers have expressed increasing concern about the difficulties caused them by the delays experienced with Central Bank approval of applications required under the new regulations.

And the task force will be examining the implementation of these new regulations and their likely impact on trade between Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

Mr. Philip Williams, Barbados Export Promotion Corporation executive director, is heading the task force which has been appointed by Minister of Trade and Industry, Bernard St. John.

During their two-day stay in Port-of-Spain, the delegation will seek clarification of the measures during discussions with the Governor of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and the director of Exchange Control; officials of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Consumer Affairs, as well as representatives of the Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association, the Chamber of Commerce and Importers.

The task force includes Mr. Henry Vieira, president of the Barbados Manufacturers' Association, Mrs. Marion Williams of the Banking and Currency Department of the Central Bank of Barbados, Mr. Neville Browne, senior economist with the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and Mr. Kyle Ward, a marketing assistant with the BEPC.

## Local Impact on Workers

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 2 Nov 83 p 1

[Text]

**HUNDREDS more Barbadian industrial workers could soon be joining those already laid-off if an answer is not found to recent austerity measures introduced by Trinidad and Tobago.**

This was the consensus yesterday of a number of local manufacturers, commenting on how they are being affected by Trinidad's new Exchange Control Regulations.

Winston Earle, managing director of Taurel Industries, Newton Industrial Park, which manufactures industrial chemicals, 90 percent of which is exported to Trinidad, said that for the last two weeks he had been giving some of his staff "one week holidays without pay."

He, however, explained that unless a solution was found soon, they would all have to go home indefinitely.

Managing director of Adams Construction, Lodge Hill, Vanburn Gaskin, told **THE NATION** he had sent home 13 of his 70 staffers permanently, and last Friday laid off another ten for three weeks.

"When they come back and the situation is not resolved, others may have to go home," he explained.

Gaskin said they manufactured furniture, mainly for export and had recently installed \$150,000 in equipment to meet demands from the Trinidad market.

"We are now operating on an overdraft from the bank and there is a limit to how far this can go," he added. He said, too, they would be trying to obtain local contracts in order to retain some of the workers if the situation got worse.

### MONITORING

Grenville Phillips, receiver for Husbands of Barbados, said that company was seriously affected and they were monitoring the situation closely.

He explained that unless there was some change within the next seven to ten days, they would either have to cut back on the amount of time put in by workers or make some of them redundant.

Sixty-six percent of all work produced by Husbands is exported. The company has a staff of between 60 and 70 persons.

An official at British Reinforced Concrete (BRC), Canoe Garden, St. Thomas, explained that they had a \$25,000 order for a Trinidad importer cancelled when the new system was introduced, but pointed out that although this was not a "substantially large" order, the whole system had grave implications for local industry.

He explained that the importer, a contractor, had "politely" cancelled the order because the new regulations introduced new time-consuming red tape, which would have caused a delay in getting the material and this would have sent up the cost of the construction project.

### HIGHER PRICE

The official said the contractor in Trinidad had to buy the same material at a much higher price from a Trinidadian producer.

The BRC spokesman said the future held grave implications for his company, because when a contractor is awarded a contract, he wants to get the project going as quickly as possible and too much red tape affects swift mobilisation.

Sam Juman, manager of Slumberfoam Limited, said he was also affected severely and might have to close his company, sending home 78 employees.

CSO: 3298/178

## MORE MARKETING OUTLETS NEEDED FOR FARM PRODUCTS

Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 4 Nov 83 p 2

[Text]

Dr. Richard Cheltenham, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs has called for the expansion of marketing outlets at domestic and export level, so as to maintain the continuity of agriculture in Barbados.

Dr. Cheltenham made the remarks while addressing participants during the one-day workshop on "post-harvest losses" which was held at the Barbados Workers' Union Labour College at Mangrove in St. Philip last Sunday.

Mr. Cheltenham said that locally there were not enough outlets for agricultural products outside of the supermarkets, which was part of the reason for much of the "post-harvest losses."

He added that there were not enough organised outlets for agricultural products that were not sugar related, and urged the Barbados Government to use the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) to effectively implement positive steps in this direction.

The Minister further stated that the new Oistins Complex will be turned into a large wholesale and retail agricultural outlet by next year. "Government cannot be expected to finance all the outlets, so we are looking for help from the private sector," the Minister said.

Dr. Cheltenham, whose remarks were focussed at the small farmers around Barbados, urged them to put more effort into their work, especially in the areas of presentation and display.

"Many initiatives have been taken, and a lot has been achieved from the initiatives" he said.

"We are still importing 50 per cent of the fruit consumed locally, and this is quite unacceptable," the Minister said. He also told the gathering that special concessions must be made by Government in expanding the range of incentives for those involved in agriculture, since the living standards of farmers would show improvement with these incentives.

Dr. Cheltenham also paid tribute to Mr. Giovanni Tadeco, who leaves Barbados soon, after serving for five years as the Food and Agricultural Organisation's (FAO) representative to Barbados.

SIXTY LOCAL POLICEMEN JOIN AREA SECURITY FORCE IN GRENADA

Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 27 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Sixty Barbadian police officers left the island yesterday as part of a contingent from three Caribbean islands to join the Caribbean Security Force, now in Grenada.

American marines and paratroopers backed by 300 soldiers from the region were last night trying to overcome pockets of resistance in their battle to gain full control of the Spice Isle.

An official announcement made yesterday by an official of the Prime Minister's Office said that "a large number of Barbadian policemen had volunteered to join the Caribbean Security Force and a 60-strong contingent was chosen."

Policemen from St. Vincent and St. Christopher-Nevis will also be in force, although no figures of those from the two other countries were given. The St. Christopher Government had said on Tuesday that 14 members of its volunteer defence force will join the regional Security Force.

A statement from the St. Lucia-based Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS) said on Tuesday that the Caribbean Force will play a peace-keeping role to restore law and order. They will be withdrawn when the island returns to normal, it added.

CSO: 3298/177

## ECONOMISTS FORECAST DEEPENING RECESSION IN FIRST HALF OF 1984

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Nov 83 p 35

[Text] Porto Alegre--In Porto Alegre yesterday, Paulo Kabelo de Castro, graduate professor of economics at the Getulio Vargas Foundation, predicted a deepening recession at least throughout the first half of 1984. He said that a successful battle against inflation depends basically on controlling government spending. "The government has already placed restraints on all sectors of society--on wages, on companies. It must now apply the same restraint on itself. Otherwise, inflation will not go down; at best it will stabilize at the current high level," declared the professor, who edits the magazine CONJUNTURA ECONOMICA, of the Getulio Vargas foundation.

Interviewed before he delivered a lecture at the weekly luncheon meeting of the Federation of Trade Associations of Rio Grande do Sul, Paulo de Castro emphasized that "the big political problem in 1984 is how the government is going to control its spending." If there is no such control and inflation goes higher, "the government runs the risk of being expelled from the game by the public," continued the professor, who sees a real danger of a political-institutional impasse, "because we have reached the peak of the crisis." He added that this is understood both abroad--Brazil's creditors--and at home, since the government has little maneuvering room to recycle its own mistakes."

A reporter asked what the repercussions could be if inflation reaches 300 percent in 1984, as predicted by many businessmen and politicians. "It is difficult to know the degree to which the custodians of the republic's purse strings would tolerate financial excesses of this magnitude," Castro answered. Asked who these custodians are, he commented only that they are the same ones who have exercised this role for "the last 20 years."

The professor feels that the agreement with the IMF was only a "contingency measure, a mechanism that would give creditor and debtor the hope of a broader and more lasting renegotiation of the foreign debt." De Castro pointed out that in the first half of 1984 there would undoubtedly be a deepening recession, because of the great pressure to reduce the public debt and inflation. In the second half, he continued, any relief will depend on the strength of the positive effects produced by the government's austerity, and how much progress is made in those first 6 months in the contacts with the creditors for a broad renegotiation of the foreign debt.



### Interest Rates Major Problem

The reconstruction and recovery of the Brazilian economy will be more difficult as time passes, because when Brazil finally manages to "put its house in order, the world economic climate will no longer be one of reactivation but one of adjustment." The prediction comes from Yuichi Tsukamoto, of the Getulio Vargas Foundation in Sao Paulo, who feels the Brazilian authorities do not have a clear vision of this situation.

Making a forecast for 1984, Tsukamoto said that the revitalization of the U S economy would reach a peak early in the first half of next year and then would begin a cyclical adjustment in the growth rate; by 1986 the rate would be lower than 1 percent per year. The EEC would not achieve an economic growth rate higher than 2 percent in any year from 1983 to 1986, he added.

The economic bind resulting from the commitments on the foreign accounts will make the picture worse, and the confrontation between CACEX [Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brazil] and CEAP [Special Secretariat for Supply and Prices] over the 'exportable agricultural surplus' will cause a disturbance in the economic policy, deepening the recession, he said.

According to the economist, to avoid a deepening recession and the scrapping Brazilian industry, there must be a basic reform of the method of handling the foreign debt service, as was recently suggested by Professor Stephen Kanitz, of the USP [University of Sao Paulo]. The principal on the foreign debts would be amortized with adjustment for inflation in the respective payments, and the interest would then be considered separately from the adjustments for inflation on the principal, and would be paid half-yearly. This modification, he stressed, would give Brazil the necessary room to a) permit imports on a scale sufficient to keep the economy in a normal rhythm; and b) keep the Brazilian industrial park up to date technologically.

### Credibility

With the current economic policy, he said: "Brazil will simply watch the parade pass by its window," unlike Argentina and Mexico. Among his predictions for 1984, Tsukamoto stressed the lack of credibility regarding the effectiveness of Brazil's fourth letter of intent to the IMF; the dollar will drop in value in relation to the other major currencies; domestic interest rates will remain high; there will be a gradual rise in international interest rates; prices of petroleum derivatives will go up, the EEC will recover slowly and it will be difficult for Brazil to expand its exports to that area; the cruzeiro will undergo a maxi-devaluation of 20 percent; and the credit premium on exports will be reduced.

In addition, he predicts the growth of union movements in the ABC [greater Sao Paulo area]; the renegotiation of Brazil's foreign debt; the adjustment of the price of commodities and petroleum; an agricultural crop of less than 51 million tons of grain; difficulties in increasing exports of manufactured products; pressure to export agricultural products; a shortage of foodstuffs; and upheaval in the presidential succession process.

### Inflation

During the first 9 months of 1984, he predicted, the annual inflation rate will remain at about 200 percent, peaking at 235 percent in May (at the crest of union activity. Only in October will the annual inflation rate fall below 200 percent, he observed. In his opinion, the year will end with an annual inflation rate of 178 percent, and the variation on the ORTN [National Treasury Readjustable Bonds] (adjusted for inflation) will be about 150 percent.

## FIGUEIREDO'S COMMENT ON PREFERENCE FOR DIRECT ELECTIONS VIEWED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Nov 83 p 10

[Article by Carlos Chagas: "President Behaving Strangely"]

[Text] Until quite recently, there was something strange about President Figueiredo's behavior in leading the succession process. Not now. More than strange, there is something sinister about the way his excellency is dealing with a matter which, like it or not, is now the nation's major preoccupation. There is no point in saying that the economic crisis takes precedence; it is precisely because of this that the succession has assumed such importance. There is no hope of a solution before the end of the president's mandate. For this reason, all attention is turned on his successor. Everyone has his fingers crossed that the rope will hold until then, stretched to the limit, but not breaking.

Until recently, it was simply odd that Figueiredo was not talking sense with his various colleagues whenever the issue of coordinating the succession came up. Either he said he would not veto anyone, or he directed so many and such strong diatribes against Paulo Maluf that it became alarming. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays he touted parliamentarism, the reelection amendment and the need that the PDS [Social Democratic Party] present a united front. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays he refuted his statements. On Sundays, instead of resting, he inclined toward Mario Andreazza, at the same time that he himself was setting up obstacles to the development of his interior minister's candidacy.

Now it is no longer strange, but sinister, when one analyzes the interview which he granted, as always, when he was out of the country--an unpremeditated side-walk interview. To give some idea of the unusual nature of the situation, it is worthwhile to record at least three of his replies, with the questions that prompted them.

"Mr President, are direct elections in your plans?"

"No, this has never crossed my mind. They made this up."

A little later:

"Would you reestablish direct elections in your administration?"

"...Now I think it would be very difficult to bring about my ideal of establishing direct elections for my successor. Very difficult."

And then:

"What do you think about direct elections?"



"I am in favor of direct elections, but this is impossible just now."

Now really! If they had made it up, if it had never entered his head to establish direct elections, how are we to understand that they are his ideal, although very difficult to achieve? Or that he favors them?

More than lapses or verbal slips during unplanned interviews and unrelated to the presidential office, and also because of other replies, the words of the chief of state make one think. More than this, they cause some apprehension. They become sinister. Although it has not arrived yet, 1984 is almost here, but even this does not justify the practice, by the nation's highest official, of the "double-speak" described by George Orwell. According to the genial British author in his "1984," written in 1947, the world would arrive at the peculiar state of obliging its inhabitants to practice "doublespeak," that is, to understand love as hate and hate as love. The minister of peace would make war and the past would not exist; it would be whatever was expedient in the present.

Once again, Brazil is giving lessons to the world, turning fiction into reality. The president of our republic never thought about them, but direct elections were always his ideal. Then, there was a very odd addendum to these contradictory reflections. In the same interview, granted in Africa, the president blamed the PDS for not allowing us to vote directly for his successor. "I am in agreement, but my party would not go along." "If it depended on my vote, the congress would approve a constitutional amendment for direct elections, but my party will not give up the right to elect the future president of the republic." Poor PDS, suddenly hoisted to the pinnacles of power....

It is worth repeating: the president's statements are not just strange, they are sinister. There is no possibility of reading in them any kind of orderly and logical agenda for the succession process. Hence...hence we are necessarily led to another conclusion.

Why is Figueiredo going farther than anyone else to confuse a situation which, in itself, is already so tumultuous?

In stirring up public opinion against his party, in saying that he does not know if he will propose various names to the PDS, or that his candidate is Jesus Christ, what does the president really want?

The evidence is mounting that he does not want anything and could be wanting everything; in other words, doublethink of the first order. He does not wish to be succeeded by anyone, in the first case. And does he mean to attempt to stay on, which comes to the same thing?

The perplexity was general yesterday in Brasilia, but other feelings crystallized as well. Fear, apprehension, even tragedy began to fill the thoughts of those who devote themselves to the mournful task of speculating on the future. Finally, the question remains: Can the economic and social crisis be prevented from worsening and exploding within a short space of time if the individual who should be acting as the fireman, throwing water on the flames, continues to feed the coals with gasoline?

It can no longer be supposed that Figueiredo is being so vague and further adding to the confusion simply to prevent the candidacy of Paulo Maluf. Even accepting

a reasonable dose of abrupt and ambiguous statements, the only successful strategy would be, at the same time, to settle on another name, be it Aureliano Chaves, Mario Andreazza, Helio Beltrao, Marco Maciel or anyone else. Or could it be that, instead of wanting to stay on as president, Figueiredo is secretly the biggest campaign manager for the former governor of Sao Paulo. In that event, it would again be a case of "doublespeak."

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CS01 3342/29

## CONFUSION IN CABINET REFLECTS LACK OF GOVERNMENT

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Nov 83 p 9

[Article by Carlos Chagas: "Cabinet Reflects Lack of Government"]

[Text] It is nothing new that many people maintain the country has no government--only confused, uncoordinated, hesitant governors, interested in having the time pass as quickly as possible until they end their time of tribulation. The cabinet has become a conglomeration in which no one is understood and nothing is resolved. Although some people give orders and many people obey them, the orders are almost always conflicting and are routinely revoked from one day to the next.

Not since 1964 has there been so much confusion, and ministers have never suffered so much erosion. Of the ambitious goals once announced by Gen Joao Figueiredo, only political "abertura" [liberalization] survived, which is no small thing, but it is already completed. There was no economic reform, in terms of a tough campaign against inflation and resumption of development, nor were the broad social reforms and a more equitable distribution of wealth achieved. It is said that political "abertura" is complete because all the goals which its authors proposed have been achieved: amnesty; freedom of the press; the restoration of political liberties and the return of the exiles to political life; direct gubernatorial elections; assumption of office by the elected; and reorganization of the parties. The possibility of rotation of power was not considered, since the plans called for a culmination through the maintenance of that power by those who usually held it, so there was no reason to go into direct presidential elections. Or broad constitutional reform. If it has not quit, the government has at least stopped governing itself, and there is no greater proof than the rampant confusion in the cabinet, where no one is understood and where everyone is criticizing everyone else. "Helio did not like Antonio, who disagreed with Joao (Abreu), who could not connect with Otavio, who disregarded Eduardo...."

Figueiredo's goal was apparently to bring everything together in a great unit committed to work for what would be a common denominator of the whole revolutionary movement. He was even prepared to be the last of the general-presidents, inasmuch as his successor was, paradoxically, selected in that year long ago, although no one today would venture to say who it will be. The choice was Petronio Portella, the all-powerful architect of "abertura," if he had not died.

Since March 1979, however, the theory has been demonstrated to be impossible in practice. After all, the cabinet consisted of men, not archangels--in those days, men with ambitions, deep-rooted ideas and a disposition to engage openly in a power struggle.

The civilian ministers were soon divided into "realists" and "developmentalists." The realists were Mario Henrique Simonsen, Golbery do Couto e Silva, Camilo Penna and, especially, Murillo Macedo. The developmentalists included Delfim Netto, Mario Andreazza, Eliseu Resende and Jair Soares, among others. Some of them would control the money; they were committed to a policy of containment. Bring an end to inflation through austerity and, in 2 years, development could be resumed. Others did not go along with restrictions and cuts in their budgets and plans; they felt that, in Figueiredo's times, they could repeat the actions undertaken in the days of Costa e Silva and Garrastazu Medici.

If not the weakest, certainly the least audacious faction gave way, because there is nothing more repugnant than to limit programs and ambitions. Simonsen sounded the warning, but he did not find a formula to resist the avalanche. He could have, if he had wanted to, but either because of disgust or a distaste for power, in less than 6 months he cleaned out his desk and went home. Everyone was in suspense, because the president's choice of a replacement would indicate which way the wind was blowing. The wind came up rapidly, 2 days later, on the side of the developmentalists. Figueiredo pulled Delfim Netto from the limited Ministry of Agriculture and gave him general command of the economy. There were days of partying and celebration. There was an inauguration ceremony the likes of which had never been seen. Businessmen from all over the country got up on tables and toppled chairs to hail the "wizard" who would once again solve all the problems--their problems and the nation's problems. The order of the day was to keep growing, to resume development without hesitation and, at the same time, to control inflation. Since the age of miracles had passed, everything went wrong. The 40-percent annual rate of inflation left by Simonsen soon went to 80 percent, 100 percent, 200 percent now and...and no policy change was able to stop it. There were dozens of revisions, packages, decree-laws, threats, appeals, price tables, debt liquidations and succedanea. In a short time the dichotomy between "realists" and "developmentalists" disappeared. The victors met with defeat in the end, turning into "realists"; after marches and countermarches, they adopted larger and larger parts of the formula of the defeated "realists."

The cabinet soon acquired another category: the "frustrated," the large majority who clamored for funds and received cutbacks.

In Figueiredo's government, Delfim Netto continued with his career of demolishing ministers and lucky charms. After Simonsen (Planning), it was Karlos Rischbieter (Finance) and, later, Eduardo Portella (Education), Said Farhat (Communications), and now Helio Beltrao (Social Security and Debureaucratization). Camilo Penna (Industry and Commerce) and Murillo Macedo (Labor) escaped by playing dead. With each frustration in the behavior of the economic numbers, the chief of SEPLAN [Secretariat of Planning] paradoxically acquired more power.

Other ministers besides these have left, for various reasons. Death took Petronio Portella (Justice) and Maria de Andrada Serpa (EMFA [Armed Forces General Staff]). Castro Lima (Health) left out of disgust. Because they had completed their time of active service or because of military shuffles, the cabinet lost Samuel Alves Correa, Jose Ferraz da Rocha, Alacyr Frederico Werner (EMFA) and Danilo Venturini (transferred from the Military Household to the newly-created Ministry of Lands and National Security). For flagrant disagreement with the way things were going, it lost Golbery do Couto e Silva (Civil Office). Jair Soares (Social Security) and Eliseu Resende (Transportation) resigned provisionally in order to run for office. Rubem Ludwig held the Education post, but ended up in the Military Household.

In all, Gen Joao Figueiredo has already named 39 ministers to 24 ministries, of which there are now 22 because of the elimination of SECOM (Secretariat of Mass Media) and the recent downgrading of Debureaucratization.

Why, almost 5 years after his administration began, are people concluding that there is no government? Is it only the difficulties and the economic crisis which have caused it to fall apart? Is it because of the presidential succession issue? Or simply an internal struggle for supremacy? Because of resistance to the political "abertura" project?

Each of these factors, and many others, have played a part in aggravating the situation, but none of them is the principal factor. Actually, these things have happened for two major reasons. The first is personal, or rather, circumstantial. The other is structural, and goes deeper.

On one hand, the president has no taste for the presidency, at least in terms of the routine tasks of administration. He often grimaces, changes the subject or is bored when intricate problems are brought up. On the other hand, the model has exhausted itself. The formula for good governments dissociated from public opinion, unrepresentative and lacking legitimacy, no longer works. Not even for Jesus Christ and his apostles.

6362

CSO: 3342/29



## GUERREIRO DISCUSSES FIGUEIREDO TRIP TO AFRICAN NATIONS

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Nov 83 p 6

[Text] Brasilia--Minister Saraiva Guerreiro could be received by Raul Alfonsin, president-elect of Argentina, before the new Argentine chief of state takes office. On Thursday, the foreign minister will travel to Asuncion, where he will attend the meeting of the Plat Basin countries on Friday and Saturday. On 7, 8 and 9 December, Guerreiro will be in Cali, Colombia, for a meeting of foreign ministers of the member nations of the Amazon Pact.

Between one professional commitment and the other, Guerreiro will go to Buenos Aires for a personal visit with his old friend Carlos Duarte, the Brazilian ambassador in that capital. This will provide an opportunity for a meeting with Raul Alfonsin and with the new foreign minister of Argentina. Guerreiro laughed heartily yesterday when a reporter asked if, during his visit with Duarte, he would invite him to be the secretary general of Itamaraty, replacing Ambassador Baena Soares, who will run for secretary general of the OAS.

## Africa

Taking an accounting of President Joao Figueiredo's official visit to five African countries, Minister Guerreiro said he considered the criticism of Brazil's African policy by some sectors of society to be "a mystery." The minister commented: "What seems obvious, in this case, is sometimes incomprehensible to some sectors." He does not know for sure if South Africa's diamonds have anything to do with some positions that have been taken, in Brazil, against our African policy, but he assured that this policy is "well received throughout the world."

Assessing Figueiredo's visit to Africa, country by country, Guerreiro reported that Nigeria has a "philosophy similar to ours" regarding autonomy in arms production. He admitted the possibility of forming joint ventures between Brasilia and Lagos for the transfer of weapons technology to Nigeria. It has been agreed that Nigerians will come to Brazil for training in Army, Navy and Air Force schools.

The foreign minister said that the two countries are engaged in creating mechanisms to reverse the downturn in trade. Brazil could buy more Nigerian petroleum and could export a great quantity of manufactured products. Nigeria is now altering its earlier priorities. Agriculture has become more important than industry.

Brazil is also very interested in Algeria's 5-year plan. Until now, this African arab country has concentrated on construction of public housing, but it feels it

has already substantially met the needs of the population. Therefore, it plans to turn its attention to other areas, including those which depend on construction of infrastructures. Algeria wants to modernize 4,000 kilometers of railroads and to build dams. In addition, it wants to expand its petroleum exploration, to mount a petrochemical complex and to give Algiers an adequate airport and metro system. Brazilian firms could participate in all these undertakings. Brazil could also purchase more Algerian oil, raising the present quota of 10,000 barrels per day to a figure still to be determined. The Figueiredo administration was also invited to act, together with Algeria, in third countries. Algeria allocates \$300 million annually to poor countries.

According to Guerreiro, the higher prices being charged by Senegal for its phosphate have been creating problems for Brazilian exportation. A "more detailed analysis of the situation" could lead Brazil to change its position and resume purchases of Senegalese phosphate.

In Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, President Figueiredo could not have had a warmer welcome, according to Guerreiro. The minister said that the chief of state could hardly have been received so well in any Brazilian municipio. Brazil maintains "limited technical cooperation, but of good quality, with these two countries."

#### OAS

Guerreiro frankly admitted that it was not part of the Brazilian tradition to seek such offices as that of secretary general of the OAS, for which Ambassador Baena Soares will run. The minister explained: "The OAS has a certain special role. It will be whatever the member nations decide to make it. There has been a loss of prestige and a tendency to ignore its potential. It must assume a role suited to today's circumstances, or make an effort to do so." He said, however, that Brazil is not "in a battle" to win the general secretariat of the organization.

The minister denied that Great Britain is retaliating against Brazil because of the Figueiredo government's position during the Falklands war. According to the minister, London has taken a "ready and willing" position regarding Brazil's problems with its foreign debt. The only hesitation is in the area of new credit to finance British exports to Brazil.

Guerreiro lamented the misunderstanding among the superpowers with regard to disarmament. He denied that Brazil is accepting U.S. aid for construction of a naval air base on the island of Trinidad, and he utilized a play on words to avoid saying if he prefers direct or indirect elections for the president of the republic.

6362

CSO: 3342/29

## BRIEFS

COAL FROM PRC--Brazil could import up to 4 million tons of metallurgical coal, as well as the 2 million tons of petroleum from China already negotiated within the framework of a 5-year commercial accord signed last month between the two countries. According to a knowledgeable government source, the decision to import coal, and in what amount, will be made early next year when the Brazilian-Chinese Joint Commission meets in Beijing, and could be announced in May when President Figueiredo visits China. In turn, the Chinese plan to increase purchases of steel, wood, cacao, sugar, cotton and soybean oil from Brazil. Last August China purchased 460,000 cubic meters of wood; recently, a steel industry delegation contracted to import 200,000 tons of steel. According to official sources, the goal is to increase trade substantially between the two countries without worrying about maintaining a short-term positive balance. The Chinese have huge coal reserves, but they have problems with transportation, both in shipping the coal from the mines to the ports of embarkation and because of limited port capacity. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Nov 83 p 25] 6362

LIBYAN INTEREST IN ARMS, SHIPS--Adm Maximiano da Fonseca, minister of the navy, said yesterday that Libya is interested in acquiring Brazilian ships, as well as weapons, and that the Brazilian and Libyan governments may sign a protocol of intent in this regard. Yesterday the navy minister received Kamil Hassanae Maghur, Libya's minister of petroleum, but during their 40-minute conversation they did not discuss business. "It was a courtesy call," said Minister da Fonseca, but he later reported that a Libyan emissary, Colonel Rif, who has been in Brazil for several days, has expressed his country's interest in purchasing various products. Minister Maximiano reported that the Libyan representative had visited ENGESA [Specialized Engineers, Inc], Avibras and the navy shipyards. Regarding Libya's interest in buying ships, the minister said it could be a training ship, a corvette and even an oil tanker. According to the minister, the incident of the Libyan planes in Brazil this year "has already been dealt with" by the two governments. Camilo Penna, minister of industry and commerce, who also met with the Libyan minister, said that Brazil could export capital goods and offer cooperation to Libya in the area of technology, standardization, standards and quality control. The Libyan minister told Camilo Penna that his country is prepared to import as much as possible from Brazil. [Text] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Nov 83 p 24] 6362



## BANK OF THE REPUBLIC MANAGER ON FOREIGN DEBT

Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p 9

[Remarks by Hugo Palacios Mejia, Manager, Bank of the Republic: "Colombia Can Handle Bigger Foreign Debt"]

[Text] "There is no need to reorganize the country's foreign debt since, under current conditions on the international money market, this would make servicing the debt more expensive."

Bank of the Republic Manager Hugo Palacios Mejia said that, given the characteristics of Colombia's foreign debt, it is possible to anticipate that the country will be in a position to take care not only of the obligations represented by the debt accumulated so far but also those which spring from future increases in that debt.

In analyzing the foreign debt of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in the light of a conference held on this matter during the previous month in Caracas, convened by the OAS, the manager of the bank of issue [Central Bank] stressed the Colombian position in this field and added that, as the finance minister stated, there is no reason for any immediate renegotiation of the foreign debt.

On the other hand, in the latest remarks published, Palacios Mejia emphasized the noteworthy recovery in coffee exports to the United States which, during the first 8 months of this year, showed an increase of 15 percent compared to the same period of time last year.

In the opinion of the Bank of the Republic, the Colombian foreign debt--which, according to statistics supplied by the Ministry of Finance and Superbancaria [Bank Audit Agency?], which amounts to about 10,000 million pesos, including \$6,400 million in public debt while the rest is private debt--can be managed in terms of its current structure, amortization deadlines, and average cost, in the face of a relatively strong international reserve situation.

"Consequently, there is no need for reorganizing the country's foreign debt; under current conditions on the international finance market, this step would make servicing the debt even more expensive," Palacios Mejia pointed out.

The head of the bank of issue said that the administration, on the other hand, is thinking of a moderate foreign financing policy which, together with the use of the portion of international reserves, would make it possible in long-range terms to surpass the economy's growth rate.

Concerning the Caracas conference, Palacios Mejia said that the possibility of creating a cartel of debtors was studied there in an effort to promote combined renegotiation; this initiative however was considered to have little or no viability and instead the conferees opted for a document entitled "Bases for an Understanding" which laid down the basic principles for facing and solving current problems connected with the region's debt.

In discarding the idea of the debtor cartel, it was argued that this alternative was not viable because each country has different conditions and characteristics; this would create conflict at the moment when it comes to looking for combined renegotiation with the different creditors, both those that supply development loans and those that supply commercial funds.

"In spite of the fact that managing the country's foreign debt at this time does not present any special difficulties, Colombia is fully in tune with the problem of the Latin American foreign debt and this has been its position in numerous international forums. Besides, it is of even greater interest to the country to seek solutions to problems existing in the area and to normalize financial relations between international banks and the region so as to get the loan funds necessary at this time for economic and political stability," Palacios Mejia remarked.

#### Foreign Exchange Situation

Regarding the foreign exchange situation, the latest statistics from the Bank of the Republic have been processed only up to the month of August at which time international reserves came to \$3,396 million, a decline of \$1,497 million during this year so far.

The drop in foreign exchange, according to the head of the bank of issue, on the one hand, sprang from the deficit of \$1,452 million, in the current account, and, on the other hand, it came from the capital account which shows a decline of \$45 million.

In analyzing foreign trade performance, we are struck by the increase in coffee exports to the United States in 1983 with an increase of 15 percent compared to last year. Out of the country's total current revenues over the first 8 months, \$2,250.4 million, a good part comes from coffee sales in the amount of \$909.8 million which in turn represent 61 percent of the total export volume.

Nontraditional sales abroad as of 31 August came to only \$588.3 million, a figure that is \$217 million smaller than for the same interval of time in 1982. However, the head of the Central Bank pointed out that, during the 8th month of the year, exports other than coffee went up \$21 million compared to July of this same year.

As of the end of August, foreign financing showed a negative balance of \$45 million as a result of greater capital amortizations as against a decline in money use fundamentally in the public sector which shows a deficit of \$57 million. The private sector came up with a positive balance of \$12 million as against \$191 million at the same date in 1982.

After August, foreign exchange declined although at a lesser rate; today the figure is almost \$3,000 million; but, as a result of the fact that foreign loans were obtained, due to the recovery of international coffee prices, the decline in imports, and the recovery of some nontraditional export lines, it is anticipated that the trend will be reversed and that the reserves will once again increase.

5058

CSO: 3348/85

## M-19 COMMANDER ON SIGNIFICANCE OF MADRID DIALOGUE

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p 15A

[Text] The high command of M-19, consisting of Ivan Marino Ospina and Alvaro Fayad, disseminated an announcement dealing with the dialogue conducted in Spain between them and President Betancur; in the announcement they indicate that they went to Madrid to start talks with the Colombian head of state "with the dignity and significance of maintaining and developing the search for peace with justice and democracy."

After emphasizing the fact that this is the first time that a Colombian chief executive is meeting with representatives of the guerrillas, the high command explained that it was agreed soon to hold new talks in Colombia between President Betancur, M-19, the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], and other guerrilla forces "in order to seek a cease-fire and the demilitarization of the areas of violence."

"Furthermore, direct and flexible mechanisms were created whose function it will be to prepare and make the coming conversations feasible," the announcement also pointed out.

According to the high command, the dialogue with President Betancur will cover the country's most urgent social, economic, and political problems as well as international aspects, such as the situation in Central America. "The progress, agreements, and development of this meeting will be explained in depth during the next several days to the nation as a whole," Ospina and Fayad explained.

"Dialogue Does Not Humiliate"

Before restating that amnesty has never signified peace but just "a big first step," the command pointed out that the movement restates its unalterable readiness for peace and that it therefore "today issues an appeal for redoubling efforts to isolate those who are in the minority in this issue and those who are in favor of war, in other words, those who both at home and abroad oppose a dialogue with the armed people; those who continue to lay traps for those who believe in political situations; those who from their positions in the field of high finance plant and spread injustice and those who, from their positions in the government and in the armed forces, oppose the peace moves of President Betancur who was courageous enough to understand and follow up on the idea that talk does not humiliate anybody and that it does not demand surrender or betrayal."

"Today we alert and summon the popular, patriotic forces, the labor unions, the natives, the religious, the students and the politicians; the nationalist sectors of the Armed Forces, the Congress, the intellectuals and the newsmen to prepare and participate in a grand dialogue between the government and all of the nation's social, political, economic, and military forces," the message furthermore says.

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CSO: 3348/85

## PCC SUPPORTS BETANCUR DIALOGUE WITH GUERRILLAS

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 18 Oct 83 p 7A

/Text/ The central executive committee of the Communist Party of Colombia described as "a piece of good news" the dialogue initiated by President Betancur with the guerrilla movements in search of peace, and announced its desire that conversations for the same purpose with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, begin soon.

In a public announcement released at the last hour, the above committee also revealed the existence of a document signed jointly by the FARC and the M-19 in which they set forth their points of view as to the formulas whereby pacification of the country may be achieved.

The announcement reads as follows: "President Betancur's initiation of a dialogue with the guerrilla movement is a piece of good news. The Communist Party of Colombia has been asking the working masses to exert pressure on the government to isolate the militarist tendencies that resist the granting of a truce, to suspend punitive operations against the farmers and to initiate a surprise dialogue with those who have risen up in armed revolt. We recall that barely 1 month ago the defense minister, Gen Landazabal Reyes, stated that the power had been created to settle the conflicts."

"We are authorized to announce that the central executive committee desires the speedy initiation of the dialogue with the FARC and prays for the achievement of the objectives contained in the document which was signed jointly on 25 April by this organization and the M-19, the text of which we transcribe herewith:

"1. To agree upon a truce between the guerrilla movement and the armed forces that will involve the cessation of hostilities and of the operations of extermination against the farming areas, the abolition of controls over the civilian population, of tortures and assassinations, the removal and trial of the agents, promoters of and those mainly responsible for the military apparatus known as the MAS.

"2. Amnesty, as an initial step toward peace, must be complemented in the first place by the direct dialogue between the delegates of the government and the guerrilla forces and must include the release of all political prisoners and respect for the liberties of the individual, as well as the protection of the opposing with effective guarantees.

"3. To look for a solution to the economic crisis, not by unloading it onto the shoulders of the workers, but by making the big capitalists pay and the implementation of measures designed to remedy the high cost of living, unemployment and the housing shortage, to improve education and public health, and to rehabilitate the areas hit by official violence.

"4. To undertake a serious study of the various pronouncements that have been made by the democratic forces with regard to a progressive political reform that will modernize the decrepit structures of the Colombian Government and abolish the obsolete formulas that consecrate but one thing: rule by an oligarchy."

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CSO: 3348/62



## BRIEFS

FARC KIDNAPPERS IN CUSTODY--/Neiva, 27 October/--Units of the intelligence section of the Judicial Police and the Investigation Department of the administrative district of Huila have arrested a total of eight members of the Third Front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, in operations carried out in Bogota and Neiva and have charged them with responsibility for the kidnapping of Mrs Isabel Cueto de Dussan, ransom for whom was being negotiated in the nation's capital. The woman, whose permanent residence is in Bogota, was kidnapped on 5 October as she arrived at the El Oriente ranch of which she is the owner and which is located in the municipality of Campoalegre, 30 kilometers from the city of Neiva. No report of the kidnapping was made to the authorities or to the communications media and members of the victim's family moved immediately to establish contacts in Bogota through which to negotiate the ransom. When police intelligence services received the report, investigations were begun and produced positive results when arrests were made in Bogota of the second in command of the Third Front of the FARC, Hernando Aguirre Restrepo or Alberto Zapata Lemus, known in the subversive organization under the alias of Alirio, and of Jose Ignacio Gil Correa, alias Ever, the man in charge of the group's finances. Both were the very individuals who were negotiating the woman's ransom with members of her family. The operation continued in the greatest secrecy in order to free the kidnapped woman in a short space of time. A few hours later arrests were made in Neiva of six additional members of the group. These are: Dimeyer Hernandez Sanchez or Juan de la Cruz Beltran, alias Martin; Hernando Ortiz Sanchez, alias Javier; Jose Eli Collazos Calderon, alias Fidel; Luzdely Beltran Ramos, alias Aide; Lucila Sanchez Ramirez, alias Doris; and Maria Eugenia Alza Ramos, alias Gema. The eight individuals detained remained at the disposition of the Ninth Brigade for a time, but were finally transferred to the prison of the Judicial District, where they are at the disposition of an examining magistrate of the criminal court. Despite the detention of a good part of the members of the guerrilla cell, the fate of Mrs Isabel Cueto de Dussan remains a mystery to the authorities and the members of her family. /Text/ /Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 28 Oct 83 p 13A/ 8089

M-19 GROUP PRE-EMPTS BROADCAST--Under the pretext of looking for the restroom, a group of hooded youths, who said they belong to M-19, entered the premises of the Colombian Radio Broadcasting Group and after intimidating station personnel, they issued a proclamation on the air. The "takeover" took place approximately at 2130 at a time when the Santa Fe--America soccer game was being broadcast from the El Campin Stadium a few blocks from the station's location. The announcement lasted 10 minutes and dealt with the "Dialogue of Madrid" as a positive event; it announced new interviews with the participation of other guerrilla groups and reaffirmed that the amnesty is only one step toward achieving peace. [Text] [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p 15A]

5058

CSO: 3348/85

## CONFERENCE ON CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN U.S., LATIN AMERICA

## Perez Herrero Opens Conference

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Oct 83 p 1

[Article by Nidia Díaz]

[Text] At the Convention Palace yesterday, Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the Politburo and a member of our party's Secretariat, officially opened the International Theoretical Conference on contradictions between the United States and Latin America at the present time. Participating in the conference were representatives of 86 parties and organizations from the Latin American continent and special guests from the Communist parties of the United States and Canada.

In his opening address, Perez Herrero said that at the present time, millions of Latin Americans are wondering about the cause of the contradictions between what Jose Martí called "our America" and "the other one," the America of the bankers and exploiters. At the same time, they are heroically facing the forces of interventionism and fascism, generously shedding their blood, defending their achievements and trying to take back what has been stolen from them.

Also present on the speaker's platform were Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo and a member of the Secretariat, Fabio Grobart and Raul Valdes Vivo, members of the Central Committee of our party, and Yuri Skharov, editor of the REVISTA INTERNACIONAL, which, along with the Communist Party of Cuba, sponsored the event.

## Working Meetings

Speaking at the first two working meetings yesterday were the representatives of Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Guadalupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Canada and San Vicente, who, in reading their respective reports, dealt with aspects relating to the economic penetration of the United States in the region, which is expressed, they said, in an increase in the foreign debt of those countries, higher foreign investments and an unlimited increase in unemployment.

They also pointed out the increased presence of American news media as a form of ideological penetration in the area and the use of the elements of

anticommunism and nationalism in order to try to neutralize the radicalization of the revolutionary movement.

Certain speakers agreed that, despite the imperialist presence on the continent, the responses of the people are ever more revolutionary, which turns the motto of living free or dying into a slogan of the anti-imperialist struggle.

#### Perez Herrero Speech

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Oct 83 p 2

[Speech by Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPC, at the opening session of the international conference on "Contradictions Between the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean at the Present Time," sponsored by the REVISTA INTERNACIONAL and the Communist Party of Cuba]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Skliarov, editor of REVISTA INTERNACIONAL and alternate member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union;

Esteemed comrade guests and observers;

In approaching the work of this conference, called in conjunction with the REVISTA INTERNACIONAL, we should like to emphasize the exceptional importance of the topic it will discuss, which is obvious in its title: "Contradictions Between the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean at the Present Time."

We hail the presence of 86 parties and organizations from Latin America, the United States and Canada, which points up the interest aroused by this theoretical event. Such broad representation also confirms the great significance to our parties of the current period, whose distinctive mark is the defensive struggle for national and social liberation.

Millions of Latin Americans are now wondering about the cause of the contradictions between what Jose Marti called "our America" and "the other one," the America of the bankers and exploiters, at a time when they are heroically facing the forces of interventionism and fascism, generously shedding their blood, defending what they have accomplished and trying to take back what has been stolen from them. Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chile and Argentina are the most striking examples of the contradictions between the decadent empire and our peoples, determined to win their second and definitive independence. No one can now say what specific form the confrontation will take in each case or what sacrifices will be needed, but there can be no doubt that there will be an end to the imperialist domination of the United States over our continent.

The agenda of this conference encompasses issues of different natures (socio-economic, political, ideological, strategic and cultural), each of which is an extraordinarily vast field enabling us to join together in comparing criteria and helping to shed light on matters of essential importance making up the most urgent political agenda of the revolutionary movements, the workers movement and democratic and progressive forces on our continent.

The fate of Latin America is of exceeding importance on the political evolution of other areas. One has but to think what the liberation of Cuba has meant for the continent and beyond in order to realize the significance which a Latin America truly free of imperialism will have for the world historic process, without even mentioning what the realization of Bolivar's dream of a single continental pact [? text not clear] would mean.

Since history is not geography, the light can come from various places. The days of Latin American liberation, delayed by brutality or prejudice, will indeed come, in spite of everything, accompanied by the fulfillment of Pablo Neruda's request: "Woodsman, awake!"

The liberation of Latin America will undeniably accelerate the victory of American workers, our brothers, whose legitimate representatives are here with us, allowing us to confirm what Jose Marti said: "I love the land of Lincoln as much as I fear that of Cutting." For the democratic and revolutionary advance of the Latin American process, it is indispensable, as the war in Vietnam proved, to have the solidarity of the people of the United States, their protest over the plans already underway to send young Americans to die and to kill in order to maintain imperialism as the policeman of the world.

At this important event, whose purpose is theoretical reflection in which -- it is almost superfluous to say -- we do not all share the same ideology and may even disagree with respect to certain problems, both national and international, there is one underlying question whose response will affect our debate. That question is: What is the basic contradiction between the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean? The answer could not be more diaphanous.

The United States is not only bent upon maintaining its already longstanding neocolonial domination of Latin America (in Puerto Rico, colonial domination), but rather, it is trying, by every possible means, to strengthen it as part of its overall strategy of ruling the planet. Proof of this is openly expressed in that kind of "Mein Kampf" of the Republican Party known as the "Santa Fe Document," a political stunt recommending the destruction of the Soviet Union and the whole socialist camp, liquidation of the national liberation movement, the establishment everywhere of governments subjected to the simply monstrous general line of local wars and practical, concrete, immediate preparation for worldwide nuclear war.

From its very emergence, as Bolivar said, the United States has appeared to be destined to plague our nations with misery in the name of freedom, and now that the situation in Latin America is escaping its control, it is mobilizing to prevent any social change, without regard to means, because with the Reagan Administration, an ultraconservative clique has come to power whose openly war-mongering, fascistic foreign policy once again brings the spectre of military aggression against our countries into the forefront.

An important phenomenon is coming about, a confirmation of the well-known law on revolutionary change discovered by Lenin. It demands urgent study in order to understand thoroughly the current aggressiveness of the United States.

The process begun since the end of World War II shows that the United States used the conflict to gain a dominant position in the imperialist field, particularly in Latin America. It created the OAU, the TIAR [Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty], a whole mechanism tying the sheep to the wolf, while its capital replaced European rivals in our underdeveloped economies. The Cuban Revolution in 1959, the Bay of Pigs in 1961 and the whole process of consolidating socialism in Cuba began the crisis of absolute imperialist domination and confirmed another important law: that of the possible break in the weakest link. When the imperialists screamed after the Sandinist victory that they would never again allow another Cuba, Fidel Castro warned that what they could not tolerate was for Nicaragua to be, as it is, a new Nicaragua.

Once again taking the well-beaten path, the imperialists conceived of using Central Americans against Central Americans in order to put down the liberating insurgency in El Salvador and Guatemala, wherever it might arise, confident that a revolutionary development on different levels would give them the possibility of shackling the liberating fire. Thus it was: socialism in Cuba, revolution in the democratic-revolutionary phase in Nicaragua and Grenada, the ascent of the anti-imperialist confrontation in all of Central America, transformed into the epicenter of the continental struggle and nevertheless, apparently unlimited dominion in South America.

#### Whole Continent in Turmoil

That scheme has now broken down and imperialism is discovering its error in calculation. The whole continent is in turmoil. The revolutionary process is growing stronger wherever it has conquered or is moving forward, to the point where it is now able to withstand direct armed intervention by the United States.

Naturally, the people of Central America want to live in peace, following political accords that are honorable for all parties enjoying their inalienable right to self-determination, to decide their own destiny, free themselves from torturers and assassins who only hold power through the use of counter-revolutionary violence.

However, what Marx ironically pointed out in a Europe besieged by war and revolution halfway through the 19th century is now occurring: The so-called "party of order" is turning into the "party of disorder." Those who have always farsically invoked solutions of peace now reject them. For Cuba, there can be no doubt and Fidel told American newsmen so on 28 July:

"I agree with the Contadora proposals that a political solution should be sought based on respect for the sovereignty of nations, nonintervention in internal affairs of other countries. This implies that every country will have the political system it prefers. If it wants to be capitalist, let it be capitalist. If it wants to be socialist, let it be socialist. If it wants a combined system, a combined system, if such were possible. In other words, I believe that the principle of self-determination is essential; the principle of nonintervention is essential. And I believe that we could all hold to that principle: we, the United States, all the countries of Central America.



In order to strengthen its dominion over our continent in the economic field, the United States uses its monopolies, which are now taking the form of transnationals. In the political and social sphere, the foreign yoke is maintained through the domination of the native oligarchy, reduced to the sad role of lowly accomplices. In the ideological field, there is a combination of a whole range of methods, instruments and techniques, under the common denominator of the outright falsification of events.

Any system for the oppression and exploitation of our peoples by American imperialism involves deceit, demagoguery and lies and recently, with Reagan's ascent to power, the enthronement of what we might call ideological terrorism. As we know, that is one of the traits of fascism. It is part and parcel of his aggressive, bellicose and adventurist foreign policy.

The name of Reagan calls forth the words of Karl Marx on the "old Ladino" Louis Bonaparte, of whom he wrote that that caricature of an emperor "conceived of the historic life of nations and the great acts of government and of state as a comedy in the most vulgar sense of the term, as a masquerade in which the great costumes, phrases and gestures are nothing more than a mask to hide all that is petty and wicked."

The difference between both "players" is that "all that is petty and wicked" to be hidden from the peoples of the world -- the American people themselves, first of all -- is the accelerated march to war, an act of unforeseeable consequences which imposes, in Central America and the Malvinas, the Middle East and southern Africa, the shedding of blood of the people, while West Europe is transformed, with the installation of the new missiles, into a gigantic hostage of the United States, ready to be sacrificed without mercy in the first Hitlerian-type strike.

The United States presents itself as Latin America's "good neighbor," when a few figures taken from the admirable report by Comrade Fidel Castro to the latest summit conference of nonaligned countries shows its condition as an oppressor, exploiter and looter.

Latin America owes half of the debt of the entire Third World to the transnationals and imperialist countries: \$300 billion. \$1,000 per person. More than any other continent, it has to acquire more debts just to pay the obligations of the debt itself. Between 1970 and 1980, \$33,437,000,000 were invested in Latin America, most by American monopolies, but they took out earnings of \$38,642,000,000. This iniquitous exploitation results in millions of unemployed workers, millions of peasants without land, hunger and poverty everywhere.

The United States presents itself as the champion of democracy, but with respect to Latin America, the governments in Washington have preferred to back military coups against the people, regimes unaware of the most basic human rights, in a word, the military dictatorships whose modern biotype is Pinochet, whom the American CIA, spurred on by Kissinger, put in power for the pure and simple establishment of a fascist regime. In the height of the masquerade, Reagan commissioned that same Kissinger to coordinate Washington's Central



American policy, which means that it is attempting, by all means, to keep governments in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala that from a distance resemble that of Pinochet and closer up, in their subservience, resemble the government in Saigon, which now appears antediluvian.

The United States presents itself as the defender of "Pan Americanism," which it unhesitatingly attributes to Bolivar, just as it has had no scruples about giving the radio broadcasts it proposes to direct against Cuba the name of Jose Marti, our national hero and the first to call imperialism by its name.

The United States remains bent on the absurdity of presenting the growing resistance of the countries and peoples of our continent to its domination as a mere plot of the Soviet Union and Cuba.

The Cuban Revolution, not imported from anywhere, opposed in principle to the exportation of revolution, is and will always be an unwaivering supporter of having each nation on our continent, every people in the world, freely decide its own destiny. That is the central idea linking the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community with the national liberation movement and with all those fighting for peace in the world.

At the same time, Cuba, which has been able to withstand the pressure of imperialism and its criminal military, economic and political aggression for a quarter of a century, thanks to the firmness of our people, the proletarian internationalism of the USSR and the world solidarity of peoples, has been, is and will continue to be internationalist and with our support, those who have been fighting for their national and social liberation, democracy and peace will be able to continue.

#### Latin America's Right To Be Itself

This explains why Cuba, in addition to backing peace moves such as those of the Contadora group, now comes out for measures encouraging the development of our economies through cultural exchanges and anything else that can bring us together. Ideological or political differences cannot be obstacles to common actions in defense of Latin America's right to be itself, to seeing each of its peoples choose the future it prefers. We Marxist-Leninists have no doubt that in the long run, the ideas of the supreme humanism embodied in the revolutionary proletariat, the ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin, will come to prevail throughout our continent, just as they have prevailed in Cuba. No Yankee, military or ideological terrorism can prevent our peoples from discovering the truth, from fighting for it and making it triumph!

The Seventh Summit Conference of Nonaligned Countries was one more expression of the growing imperialist isolation and proof that anti-imperialism has grown in the feelings of the peoples of the underdeveloped countries and their governments. If many of these nations have not yet opted for socialism, it is already clear that the underdeveloped and subservient capitalism imposed on them by colonial and neocolonial domination is not the solution to its big problems.

The crisis in relations between imperialism and the underdeveloped countries, within which one finds the United States-Latin America contradictions, expresses the growing inability of the system to handle its affairs and consequently, the emergence of the alternative of force as the desperate recourse with which it intends to recover its deteriorating hegemony.

It is fitting, in any scientific analysis of imperialism, to emphasize that the United States is in itself an exceedingly contradictory and complex society. The diversity of interests is accentuated, even inside the ruling class and its oligarchic sector. The sharpening of the general crisis of capitalism and its particular repercussion in the United States forces a redefinition and a reordering of priorities also in the national sphere. With special complexity, this set of internal problems also affects the formulation of foreign policy considerably.

Both on its periphery and in the central core, Yankee imperialism is now experiencing the symptoms of its historical inviability. This structural situation, the hegemony of that sector of finances and the political power which believes in inflexibility as the most effective strategy for facing the crisis, gives the current circumstances a somber cast and the stamp of grave foreboding.

"We are living through risky, difficult times," Fidel said on 26 July. The danger of confrontation is not only local, but worldwide. We need nerves of steel, maximum force, maximum mobilization of peoples and absolute determination not to yield to blackmail if we want to halt the aggressor, if we want to save the peace, if we want to survive."

Starting with the triumph of the Cuban Revolution, the continent began to go through the phase of the most far-reaching changes in American history since the time of independence. The triumphs of the revolution in Nicaragua convince us that we are special witnesses of the way in which the United States commits the terrible mistake of ignoring, in following its policy, the desires of the peoples of our America.

Imposition of the militaristic optic toward Latin America is manifested in its inability to allow a negotiated settlement in El Salvador, its intransigence in dialoguing with Nicaragua, the colonialist policy on Puerto Rico, its distrust of the agreements on the Panama Canal, its violation of the so-called human rights policy in relations with the countries of the Southern Cone.

The doctrine of national security has taken over all aspects of the imperialist relationship with Latin America and the Caribbean.

The traditional looting of natural resources and the onerous terms of unequal trade, which have always constituted factors of pressure in relations, are not reinforced, incorporating other weapons that have made up a wide repertoire, from the debt to neoprotectionism. Such instruments have obviously served the logic of the carrot and the stick, whose most air-brushed expression is known as the Initiative for the Caribbean Basin, a comic version of old tragedies such as the Alliance for Progress.

The change in the ratio of forces between the United States and Latin America is already shaping up as a new phase in the crisis of its system of continental domination and corroborates a worldwide process in which, despite retreats in certain places or at certain times, the strengthening of the anti-imperialist trend generally prevails.

We are living through difficult times, but their message of hope is not artificial. It springs forth from the laws and real history which all of our peoples are making. It was demanded two decades ago by the Second Havana Declaration: "Its giant step will no longer be halted."

Esteemed comrades:

We are not brought here today by any gloating spirit that would obscure the real dimension, true weight and actual scope of events. We are brought together by the commitment of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Our conference opens with the conviction that our cause of independence and national and social liberation is just and will conquer.

Thank you very much.

HL:AGV

CSO: 1148/123

## LAWYER DENIES CHURCH PERSECUTED SINCE REVOLUTION

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish Aug 83 pp 24, 26

[Article by Dr Raul Gomez Treto: "Monsignor Boza, What a Pity!"]

[Text] The author of this article, Dr Raul Gomez Treto, is a Catholic Cuban jurist. He lives in Cuba with his wife and their five children. He has practiced here as a lawyer and legal adviser ever since his graduation in 1954. He was appointed by the Cuban bishops to preside over Cuban Catholic Action during the 1960's. Subsequently, he has been on ecclesiastical lay apostolate and ecumenical committees.

Gomez Treto has directed the Catholic center for ecumenical studies and headed the delegation of the Cuban Catholic Church to the Third World Congress for the Lay Apostolate held in Rome in 1967. By church appointment, he was also the Catholic Church's legal representative in legal proceedings like the one concerning intervention in the Cristobal Colon cemetery in Havana and in negotiations like the purchase of the Good Shepherd Seminary property by the Cuban Government. All of this is mentioned in the article we present below. Gomez Treto is currently a member and leader of national, continental and international ecumenical movements.

Recently some U.S. Catholic priests of the many who have visited Cuba showed me a Miami newspaper of 25 September 1982 which published some UPI cables datelined Washington, 24 September 1982. Those cables reported statements made by Monsignor Boza Masvidal, the former auxiliary bishop of Havana who has not lived here since 1961.

Monsignor Boza spoke of things like the "prison for dissident priests" in Cuba; the "confiscation of church property" by the revolutionary government; "limitations in the freedom of the priests and parishioners"; a reduction in the number of priests; a "dramatic decline in Catholic baptisms and marriages"; and government sanctions against those who marry in the church and give their children a religious education.

We met Monsignor Boza many years ago when he was a simple parish priest at Nuestra Señora de la Caridad in Havana. We used to participate in his parish Mass every Sunday and holy days.

We remember his consecration as a bishop at the Catedral Metropolitana with Monsignor Domínguez in 1959 after the revolutionary victory. We have not forgotten his words at the burial of the beloved Monsignor Villaverde at Matanzas cemetery. They were already filled with his personal feelings against the new process.

We were part of that cellular organization that he founded and led in Cuba in 1961 "to spread information among the Catholics" because of the disappearance of the reactionary DIARIO DE LA MARINA. That group was used to convoke a procession on Sunday, 10 September 1961. This demonstration led to a violent police confrontation in the streets of the city which left one youth dead and caused 132 priests to leave Cuba including Monsignor Boza himself.

It is not necessary to explain to Monsignor Boza that, during the first 2 years of the revolution, about 400 priests left the country voluntarily without anyone expelling them--frequently without the permission of their bishops or religious superiors--alleging fear of communism. They did not feel like the Good Shepherd but like the hired shepherd who flees and abandons his sheep when he fears that an alleged wolf is coming.

What he does not know or does not want to say is that, since then, priests have continued to be ordained in Cuba every year. With a Vatican II mentality, they have replaced those who left and those who have retired without anyone considering these new promotions of shepherds for our church.

Everyone agrees with the dark image of Cuba that Cuba's enemies try to paint. We are aided by the Institute of Religion and Democracy, among others.

Certainly there are no priests or religious held prisoner on this Caribbean island. In more than two decades of revolutionary social process, only eight priests have been in prison. All have been pardoned before their sentences were completed. Seven were authorized to travel to countries of their choice and the other remains in Cuba, free and practicing his ministry and religious work.

Can this situation be compared to what happened to Reverend Martin Luther King and other pastors, priests and nuns in the United States? With what happened to Father Enrique Pereyra in Brazil in 1966 and to other religious in those same years? To Reverend Mauricio Lopez (1974), Father Mujica (1974) and Monsignor Angelelli (1975) in Argentina? Or in El Salvador to Father Rutilio Grande (1977), Monsignor Arnulfo Romero (1980), the U.S. missionaries and so many other religious as well as to so many other victims of state and para-state repression in the Christian "democracies" of our continent which are supported by successive U.S. governments?

## Revolutionary Laws

The Cuban revolutionary government did not designate Church or paragonal church property as Monsignor Irujo stated.

The Agrarian Reform Law (1960) did not affect church property since in Cuba, different from other countries, the church was not a large landowner.

The Urban Reform Law (1960) did affect some church property but not those used for ministry but those that were not being used. The same thing happened to those who profited from housing although all were paid based on the price the owners set before. This was not a measure of confiscation, much less an anti-ecclesiastical one.

The Education Nationalization Law (1960) put the private schools in the hands of the state. This was not just the Catholic schools so it cannot be called anti-ecclesiastical. Proof of this is that Catholicism has continued flourishing in the churches in Cuba as well as the seminaries and novitiates that the church wants to keep open to train priests and religious.

In 1961 the public burial service that the Archdiocese of Havana provided at the Cristobal Colon Cemetery by administrative grant conferred by the Spanish Crown in the middle of the 19th century became "municipal." Some tried to revile the church under the auspices of this measure.

In spite of the recovery of this service by the City, the church has continued to hold its funeral services and Masses in its chapel that it administers at that cemetery by express recognition of that religious function in the cemetery "municipalizing" provision. Can confiscation or any limitation of the operation of the church ministry be alleged in this case?

In 1960 the Ministry of the FAP asked the church if it could purchase the land and buildings of the diocesan seminary outside Havana City for defense needs of the country due to constant U.S. aggressions and threats.

After careful negotiation, the church agreed to give up the property for the legally recognized price. The Cuban state also guaranteed the delivery of all the construction materials to renovate the historic building of the old San Carlos y San Ambrosio Seminary as the diocesan seminary. It has been there since then to great advantage, given its central location.

Who but the church and its orders are the owners and administrators of the Santovenia Asylum, the Paula Asylum, the Santa Mariana Home, San Rafael Clinic, San Juan de Dios Hospital and all the other health and welfare centers that the religious and nuns did not abandon when they were called abroad by their superiors during the first years of the revolution?

Was not the Cuban state supplies these establishments so that they can function and provide their services?

The decline in Catholic baptisms and marriages is a fact. During the first years of the revolution, ceremonies encountered by citizens, priests, and



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The Cuban revolutionary government has not confiscated (taken) the church property as Monsignor Inza stated.

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In 1961 the Ministry of the Sea asked the church if it would permit the building and maintenance of the diocesan seminary with the Havana City Government and the country due to constant civil disturbances and wars.

After several negotiations, the church agreed to give up the property for the diocesan seminary. The Government has guaranteed the diocese all the construction materials to renovate the historic building. The diocese has donated the land and the diocesan seminary. If the diocese there since then to great advantage, given its central location.

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The decline in Catholic baptisms and marriages in 1961. The decline in years of the revolution, especially in the first years, 1961 and 1962.

## CENTRAL BANK ON PUBLIC, PRIVATE FOREIGN DEBT REFINANCING

Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 18 Oct 83 p 3

/Text/ (ANE)--Eighty percent of the external debt in the private has now been refinanced in comparison to only 25 percent of the public debt, specified the general manager of the Central Bank, Abelardo Pachano.

This means that the problem of refinancing the expirations or maturities of the years 1984 and succeeding involves mainly the public sector.

If the percentage figures mentioned by the Central Bank are analyzed, it would be feasible to obtain in round numbers the total amount of the debt.

The public debt refinanced up to now amounts to 1.502 billion dollars. If this amount corresponds to 25 percent, then it means that the total public debt is around 4.208 billion dollars.

The refinanced private debt this year is in turn 950 million dollars. If this amount is equivalent to 80 percent, it would make the total amount of the (registered) private debt about 1.187 billion dollars.

This would mean that the total public and private debt amounts to 5.395 billion dollars.

Nevertheless, the figures which have been handed over by the Central Bank to the International Monetary Fund and this organization's own estimates situate the public and private debt:

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We remember his consecration as a bishop at the Catedral Metropolitana with Monsignor Domínguez in 1959 after the revolutionary victory. We have not forgotten his words at the burial of the beloved Monsignor Villaverde at Matanzas Cemetery. They were already filled with his personal feelings against the new process.

We were part of that cellular organization that he founded and led in Cuba in 1961 "to spread information among the Catholics" because of the disappearance of the reactionary DIARIO DE LA MARINA. That group was used to convoke a demonstration on Sunday, 18 September 1961. This demonstration led to a violent political confrontation in the streets of the city which left one youth dead and caused 132 priests to leave Cuba including Monsignor Boza himself.

It is not necessary to explain to Monsignor Boza that, during the first 2 years of the revolution, about 400 priests left the country voluntarily without anyone expelling them--frequently without the permission of their bishops or religious superiors--alleging fear of communism. They did not feel like the Good Shepherd but like the hired shepherd who flees and abandons his sheep when he fears that an alleged wolf is coming.

What he does not know or does not want to say is that, since then, priests have continued to be ordained in Cuba every year. With a Vatican II mentality, they have replaced those who left and those who have retired without anyone considering these new promotions of shepherds for our church.

His version agrees with the dark image of Cuba that Cuba's enemies try to publicize aided by the Institute of Religion and Democracy, among others.

Certainly there are no priests or religious held prisoner on this Caribbean island. In more than two decades of revolutionary social process, only eight priests have been in prison. All have been pardoned before their sentences were completed. Seven were authorized to travel to countries of their choice and the other remains in Cuba, free and practicing his ministry and religious teaching.

Can this situation be compared to what happened to Reverend Martin Luther King and other pastors, priests and nuns in the United States? With what happened to Father Enrique Pereyra in Brazil in 1966 and to other religious in those same years? To Reverend Mauricio Lopez (1974), Father Mujica (1974) and Monsignor Angelelli (1975) in Argentina? Or in El Salvador to Father Rutilio Grande (1977), Monsignor Arnulfo Romero (1980), the U.S. missionaries and so many other religious as well as to so many other victims of state and para-state repression in the Christian "democracies" of our continent which are supported by successive U.S. governments?

Figures expressed in millions of dollars.

	<u>Amortization</u>	<u>Interest</u>
1983 Without renegotiation	1,856	633
With renegotiation	755	804
1984 Without renegotiation	672	472
With renegotiation	825	622
1985 Without renegotiation	647	391
With renegotiation	870	511
1986 Without renegotiation	647	318
With renegotiation	870	408
1987 Without renegotiation	559	245
With renegotiation	782	305

The analysis of these figures reveals that the only thing renegotiation achieves is to defer payments and charge them to the coming years. That is, the relief is temporary, for from 1984 on, heavy outlays must be made.

That is, the refinancing of the 1983 debts and maturities allowed the country to experience some temporary relief, but from 1984 on the situation will be reversed and the amounts of service on the debt will have to increase.

This means that Ecuador will have to refinance the new maturities and expirations under acceptable conditions to prevent the national economy from becoming totally strangled, with 75 percent of its exports pledged.

#### Budget Analysis Begun for 1984

Quito--The Legislative Budget Commission of the Parliament yesterday initiated the analysis of the preliminary draft budget for the 1984 economic fiscal year, which amounts to the sum of 104.8 billion sucres, which means that there has been an increase of 29 billion sucres in relation to the budget corresponding to the current year.

#### Revenues

The total revenues anticipated in the aforementioned draft come to the amount of 104.8 billion sucres, which in relation to the 1983 budget means a relative growth of 44.6 percent. But if the comparison is made at constant prices, then the budget shows a decrease, for there is a two-percent reduction, if the figures are deflated, remarks the president of the republic in an official communique sent to the legislature when he handed the 1984 proforma budget to the legislature.

President Hurtado Larrea explains in his official communique that the significant increase in estimated revenues is justified by projected economic activities; the best process of control and collection of taxes; an average price of US \$28 per barrel of oil at a kind of average official exchange of 63 sucres per dollar; new revenues grouped under the name "special account funds," among which are included mainly the monetary stabilization surcharges established by the Law of Economic Stabilization and Control of Public Spending.

Notwithstanding the size of the draft budget, it should be stressed that, for the second consecutive time, no external indebtedness is being contemplated for its financing, which in 1982 came to 15.33 billion sucres.

The level of internal indebtedness has been substantially reduced to such a degree that it is lower than for 1982 and only amounted to 6 billion sucres. This is due in part to the fact that of the total emission of the year 1983, there is a surplus of 3.8 billion, which is why 9.8 billion worth of state papers will have to be placed for 1984, adds the president's official communique. Further on he shows that, regarding anticipated revenues from the Law of Farming and Animal Husbandry Road Service and Development of Manpower, they are expected to come to 10.21 billion sucres, of which 7 billion sucres consists of the "special funds" group and will be earmarked for the carrying out of the completion of specific projects geared to the operative capacity of the construction companies and the total cost of the program and the remaining 3.21 billion sucres will probably be used for the general financing of the budget.

#### Debits and Expenditures

As for debits and expenditures, 35 percent is concentrated on the determination of public debt, an unprecedented level in the history of national budgets. It represents, in relation to a similar heading of the previous fiscal year, a 78 percent increase. The increase of this kind of debits and expenditures is due essentially to the fact that in 1983 calculations were made at an official quote of 33 sucres per dollar and for 1984 consideration has been given to the type of average exchange stemming from the minidevaluations, the aforementioned official communique emphasizes.

As for the increase in funds allotted for meeting the public debt for 1984, President Hurtado shows in his official communique that the public debt would have been bigger by an amount of 10.6 billion sucres, if new financing had not been studied for the maturities and expirations which will occur in the 1984 fiscal year, both as regards the external as well as the internal debt.

Furthermore, he shows that high growth indices are occurring in transportation and communications, headings for which public expenditure is duplicated. This also occurs to a lesser extent for education and health. Whereas stress has been put on the austerity policy that the government has been promoting. Therefore, the records for hiring occasional personnel and payment of extra hours have been eliminated except in the national Congress, education, health, and the local counterpart funds that will have to be financed by means of a loan from the Ecuadorean Development Bank. Besides, a prohibition has been put on the creation of new positions, except for 2,592 school teachers, 1,240 public health posts and 1,000 policemen, all of whom are considered indispensable for social development and public safety.

12448

CSO: 3348/30

## SOCIALIST PARTY TO PARTICIPATE IN COMING ELECTIONS

Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 17 Oct 83 p 5

/Text/ In agreement with the resolutions of the latest Extraordinary Congress of the Ecuadorean Socialist Party, the latter will participate in the upcoming national and regional elections within the established Socialist Front formed by the aforesaid party, the Revolutionary Socialist Party, and the Ecuadorean People's Party, the latter formed by organized workers in the country; so declared Dr Elias Sanchez Sanchez in his capacity as secretary general of the Guayas Provincial Council of the Ecuadorean Socialist Party, adding that No 17, which corresponds to the PSE, will be used.

In this province, the leadership of the Socialist Front is already in agreement with the main leaders of the three previously-mentioned political groups, formed as follows: Dr Elias Sanchez for the Socialist Party, Mr Jorge Reynolds, for the Revolutionary Socialists and Eng Gustavo Barquea for the Ecuadorean People's Party. This organization is working actively and has organized several commissions among which may be mentioned those of Finances and Press and Advertising, the first, including Dr Carlos Morales Saenz de Viteri, who presides over it, and the second Prof Richard Chavez Coca, Hector Dulcev, Tito Villacreses and Urbano Granda.

The Socialist Front will participate in the electoral process with its own candidates, whose list will be presented for consideration in the country until next week. For the moment and on account of having been requested on an emergency basis, Guayas recommended for the national right of succession to Deputies for Ecuadorean Socialism the names of Dr Macario Gutierrez Solorzano and Dr Filiberto Aguirre Gavilanez, constituent and deputy respectively, a particular which was communicated by the Secretary General of Socialism of el Guayas to the CEN /National Executive Committee/ of the Socialist Party represented by Mr Alberto Cabeza de Vaca and to the Acting Director of the Socialist Front, Dr Sergio Velez Valarezo.

12448

CSO: 3348/30



## EFFORTS TO FORM CENTER-LEFT FRONT REPORTEDLY FAIL

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Oct 83 p D-10

/Text/ Notwithstanding efforts made to return to the idea of forming a front of several parties, made to compete with the presidential candidacy of Leon Febres Cordero, the task seemed to be impossible according to statements made by several political leaders.

The director of the Democratic Party in Pichincha, Oswaldo Torres Gonzalez, said that a remark published in EL COMERCIO, posing directly the decline of the candidacies of Francisco Huerta Montalvo, Julio Cesar Trujillo and Rene Mauge, is inadmissible and contrary to law, recalling that Huerta had for some time now been advocating the Center-Left Front, but that when the initiative failed the ticket was completed with Rodrigo Espinosa Bermeo for the vice presidency; he denied that difficulties had arisen in most recent days.

"The candidacy of Dr Huerta is not subject to review," he repeated emphatically, announcing that "we are going to be in the second electoral round" and admitting that the help of the other Center-Left parties will then be needed, while he abstained from commenting on possible resignations by Mauge and Trujillo, saying that "we do not have informers planted in the other parties."

During the "One O'Clock" /Una hora/ TV program, the candidate of the Alfarist Radical Front to the vice presidency of the republic, Miguel Falconi Puig, said that the presidential candidacy of Jaime Aspiazu has not been questioned. On the contrary, its "backing is increasing, thanks to his platform and the high-mindedness and seriousness with which he is running his campaign"; regarding Trujillo and Mauge, he stated that they must keep in the civic competition "from every point of view," and, as regards electoral perspectives, he expressed faith that the FRA /Alfarist Radical Front/ ticket will get to the second round and that, when it achieves power, it will require the support of other Left-Center groups.

In his turn, the candidate to the legislature of the Social Christian Party, Jose Iturralde Arteaga, rejected the qualifications of Right and Left, saying that it is a matter of simple commonplaces devoid of significant content for the people, who should be told the truth, and to whom effective remedies should be proposed for the serious circumstances that they are facing.

He explained that the platform of the Front of National Reconstruction is based in achieving the establishment in Ecuador of "an upward-oriented democracy" in which, with everyone having equality of opportunity, significant progress will be made; it is not a matter of distributing poverty, which is very easy, as may be seen with the pathetic examples of this period," he pointed out.

He also said that in his view, there is now a majority pronouncement of the people in favor of Febres Cordero, because the people have been able to appreciate "that he talks and acts truthfully and courageously and seeks the solutions that make the most practical sense."

Falconi insisted on Ecuador's need to achieve an appropriate social balance, a political performance that will not ride roughshod over the rights of anyone, and progressive reform, which will continue to improve general living conditions.

As it was observed that the most important period in campaign elections initiatives is beginning and there are only a few days left for the Supreme Court to decide about the challenges to the Electoral Publicity Regulations which the Executive issued, questions were asked on the subject of "panelists," since Falconi had said that the rule is not open to attack due to any defect in form or content, that it does not infringe upon the constitutional guarantees of freedom of expression, and that, on the contrary, it tries to protect the very important guarantee of equality between persons and political parties.

Torres also showed he was in agreement with the Regulations, saying that his party intended to prevent excessive economic power from controlling the means of mass communication, but Hurrelde Arteaga explained that articles 104, 105 and 106 of the Election Law issued by the military dictatorship were voided by the Constitution which came later and which, moreover, represents the supreme rule of the republic, so that since the Regulations are only a continuation of these articles, "it is clear that they are absolutely devoid of value."

12/4/82

CSO: 1148/30

## BRIEFS

NEGATIVE GROWTH RATE--Quito (AFP)--For the first time since 1968, the Ecuadorean economy will register in 1983 a negative growth rate of 0.4 percent, a culminating point in the economic winding down experienced in most recent years, a study by the Industrial Development Center of Ecuador /CENDES/ reported in Quito. The document, based on forecasts by the Central Bank, maintains that conomic activities will undergo real negative rates, except for the petroleum and gas sector, which have begun to turn, serving as an excuse for the country's difficult position. /Text/ /Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 17 Oct 83 p 1/ 12448

CSO: 3348/30

## HEALTH MINISTER REVIEWS PROBLEMS IN EAST

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Nov 83 pp 4, 47

/Text/ In spite of the state of war in which the country is living, health programs are regularly being implemented (in the Eastern Area), now with the new strategy of having the people participate in these activities aimed at seeking health and well-being.

This was reported by the minister of public health and public assistance, Dr Napoleon Eugenio Cardenas, who added that now it is the very people of the communities, mainly rural, who are interested in participating in the health programs which are being carried out on the national level.

Moreover, Dr Cardenas said, we have now faced primary health care assistance with another new strategy: and instead of waiting for people to come to the hospitals, the hospitals have come to them and have provided them with vaccination programs, oral rehydration programs, breast-feeding, environmental sanitation, etc.

In this way disease prevention is practiced before diseases can attack and make people resort to the hospitals, stated Dr Cardenas.

Of course, he stressed, these programs would have no meaning or success if we did not have the participation and cooperation of the citizenry, which in short is what makes it possible for these activities to be carried out satisfactorily.

Within these same communities, rural assistants are prepared who are the ones who promote and create an awareness in their areas of the need for supporting these programs, as part of the government's total strategy, which is to achieve "Health for everyone by the year 2000."

The minister of health reported that the war situation has had an effect on health care in several areas of the eastern sector of the country, but this situation has been faced with mobile units that serve and look after all the towns and communities affected.

He said that about 10 health units have been destroyed or pillaged by the guerrillas, but that this has at no time meant abandonment of the health programs in that area of the country.

Likewise, he indicated, we still have the problem of supplying with medicines the health posts of all these places, but this situation has been faced with the cooperation of the armed forces, which duly protect every shipment made to the hospitals and health units of the eastern part of the country.

Another of the difficult problems in the health field is the food shortage, which has made the budgets of the hospitals five times what they were, thereby causing budget problems, he declared.

As far as the human factor is concerned, said Dr Cardenas, the medical and paramedical personnel of the health centers are working and there is no problem of coverage in any area of the country.

The type of attention given the patient in these war-torn areas is another matter. The most common childhood ailments here are malnutrition, parasitism, etc., and among adults there has been an increase in flesh wounds, serious injuries, traumatisms, etc., that require more expensive and of course specialized care.

The effects of war itself have been clearly visible in many of the diseases these people have, namely, "war psychosis."

For illness of this kind, we do not have specialized personnel and those we do have are concentrated in the capital, Dr Cardenas stated.

"Besides," he declared, "we must understand that our cultural level does not permit us to expect these fellow citizens to seek this type of psychic assistance, so that a sociologist or psychiatrist would probably die of hunger in Perquin, for instance," he added.

"We expect that for the 5-year period between 1980 and 1985, the Salvadoran life expectancy at birth will rise to an average of 66 years. Currently life expectancy is 60 years, with an infant mortality rate that has decreased to 41.2 percent, since in 1978 it came to 50.8 percent," Dr Cardenas reported.

We must understand, he said, that as the years go by, our health problems will start to increase since in the last 4 years the population has increased by 319,925 inhabitants, which comes to a total population of 4,672,745 Salvadorans.

"As may be inferred," the minister of health concluded, "we face many problems, but we are confident that our plans will be made operational on schedule."

The Ministry of Public Health covers 89 percent of the population with a budget of 190 million colons; 6 percent are covered by Social Security, with 200 million colons and the rest by private hospitals.

"Therefore it is easy to get an idea of our duties," he concluded.

12/48

CSO: 3248/153

## POLICE DIRECTOR ADDRESSES INDIAN CONGRESS

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 28 Oct 83 p 3

/Text/ Col Carlos Reynaldo Lopez Nuila, general director of the National Police and representative of the armed forces in the Commission on Human Rights, today gave a talk on the present Salvadoran conception of human rights, before numerous participants at the International Indigenous Congress which is being held here in San Salvador by the National Association of Salvadoran Indians /ANIS/.

Lopez Nuila came to the Gadala Maria Building, headquarters for the Indigenist event together with Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia, who was being acclaimed by the Salvadoran Indians as "the father of the ANIS because he was the one who severed our umbilical cords at a time when we needed friends and lots of help."

Colonel Lopez Nuila started his lecture referring to the initiative of President Carter in projecting doctrinally the United States policy on human rights, which went beyond being a concept to become something living and immersed within a reality. He commented that the Carter doctrine claimed to redeem the world by means of a demand for human rights, especially the communist world which definitely accepted its use with the Helsinki accords, but which went on to be a dead letter and so much ink just like the other accords signed by the Marxists.

He also indicated that Carter, in his naivete, thought he was creating a real social revolution in the communist world, establishing as the hub of his foreign policy a respect for human rights and a demand for compliance with the many agreements concerning such rights. The communists kept up their dialectical dogmatism, added Colonel Lopez Nuila, and their enslaved society, and despite the fact that in their midst a few groups were created that sought to keep watch and demand compliance with the Helsinki accords all, one by one, were banished, put into exile and even declared deranged and put into psychiatric hospitals, giving rise to the dissidence which has been declared a crime by the communists.

Among the other topics of his lecture, Colonel Lopez Nuila referred to the historical action for the protection of the Indians, emphasizing at the same time in this movement the use of human rights which in El Salvador has a virtually humanistic concept, the only way towards the growth and development of true social integration. He referred also the stepped up pace of terrorism and Marxist violence, not only in El Salvador, that violates human rights, international humanitarian law and the principles of state security. He also said



that the government could be violating human rights, but that it came mainly from the individual rising in armed revolt seeking to achieve political power by violent means, with no basis for his actions except ideological messianism. "Here is where we find ourselves with the hard reality of the facts," he commented.

He also condemned the guerrilla activity that seeks to acquire status by means of insurrection, trying to conceal human rights violations, basing them on political, social, religious or even moral considerations. In his comprehensive talk, Colonel Lopez Nuila said that many citizens' indifference to participation in the strengthening of our democratic institutions is one of the major reasons for the current situation.

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CSOP 3248/153

## NATION INTERVIEWS GAIRY, WHO WANTS TO FORM INTERIM GOVERNMENT

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 27 Oct 83 p 19

[Text]

DEPOSED Prime Minister of Grenada, Sir Eric Gairy, has said that he must have the responsibility to form the interim government in that trouble-torn country.

Speaking yesterday in a telephone interview with THE NATION for the first time after the invasion of Grenada by multi-national troops, Gairy said that he wished to form the government "with the cooperation and assistance of Mr. Herbert Blaize, the head of the only elected minority party alive".

Mr. Blaize was the leader of the parliamentary opposition in Grenada for several years.

Gairy said: "The event is no particular surprise to me. I knew it had to happen some time — sooner or later. I consider any duly elected government of the people a Holy thing."

"The communists seized the people's duly elected Government in the dark hours of March 13, 1979 in my absence. Our small defence force, and others were killed on the spot."

"Immediately after that bloody coup, Bishop and his Cuban-supported terrorists seized the newspapers, the radio station, and the private television station. They seized about one-third of private enterprise in Grenada, including three banks, the Coco Cola Factory and the sugar factory."

"They imprisoned hundreds of people without any trial, killed dozens, sent many into exile, and many are still on the list of permanently missing."

"In contrast, under our people's duly elected government, there was total freedom of expression. There were no political prisoners. No citizens were condemned to exile."

"There was complete freedom for political opposition under which Maurice Bishop, Bernard Coard and the other conspirators enjoyed all the human rights and privileges to spread communist propaganda at public meetings and in publications."

"Grenadians, both at home and abroad, are indeed very happy to be free once more to do as they please, and express themselves freely within our constitutional limits without any fear of being killed, imprisoned, or sent into exile."

"We are grateful to all governments in the region who participated as well as the United States, for their assistance. I fully concur with the view expressed by Miss Eugenia Charles, on the formation of an interim government. This is in accordance with my thoughts also."

"As head of the duly elected, legitimate and constitutional government, I must assume responsibility to form that interim government, and I wish to do so with the cooperation and assistance of Mr. Herbert Blaize, the head of the only elected minority party alive."

"He and I, together with the governor-general, may select persons to form this interim government from duly qualified and very responsible people, some of whom may never have been elected, but are representative of a broad spectrum of our society — from agriculture, management, labour, private business enterprise, and the church, among others."

"This is what the people would like to have, and this is what they would have."

"As the only duly elected legitimate and constitutional head of our country I would like,

on behalf of all the people at home and abroad, to thank those who publicly participated in the restoration of Grenada, the haven as we all knew it to be under our regime.

"I go on to say that a Mr. Lewis connected with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) had to say, in summary, that it would not be a good idea to have me back in Grenada.

"I do not think Mr. Lewis can call the correct names of ten people in Grenada. It is now very amusing to know how many people outside would like to take the privilege, on their own, in determining the destiny of our people in Grenada.

"Bishop and his gang had Grenadians like sheep. They could not speak for four-and-a-half years. Grenadians are not going to allow this to happen to them again.

"Nobody who has not been elected could be super-imposed upon the people of Grenada. I will not stand for it, and the people of Grenada will not stand for it.

"They have been asking for me. They have been calling: 'bring back the Shah' because Bishop gave me that nomenclature. 'Bring back Uncle Gairy'. Give us our duly elected prime minister. And we don't want any outside interference telling us who to put there, and who we must put there'.

"I would say that people who hated me with a passion have killed themselves out. The few who remain and dislike me, I think they are changing their minds.

"In Grenada today, I think I have about 90 to 95 percent support of the Grenadians who should be able to form an interim government. And to suggest that I am not included, the whole question is ludicrous.

"I will be back when conditions are ripe, and I hope these will be so in the next few days. These conditions relate to my personal safety."

## STORIES EMERGE FROM WITNESSES TO 19 OCTOBER EVENTS

## Attack on Pro-Bishop Crowd

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 4 Nov 83 pp 2, 3

[Text]

**ON the afternoon of Wednesday, October 19, while the crowd of Maurice Bishop supporters, who had just freed him from house arrest, were waiting outside Fort Rupert to hear him address them, soldiers of the Peoples Revolutionary Army threw two hand grenades into the crowd and pandemonium broke loose.**

A Trinidadian, Reverend Hamilton Billy, said that this act was related to him by a soldier of the PRA, who was in the crowd outside the fort at the time of the incident.

Reverend Billy was speaking during an interview on Rediffusion and the Voice of Barbados (VOB) on Wednesday. He was airlifted out of Grenada last Saturday after being in the island since October 11.

**FIRING**

Relating the event as had been described to him by the soldier, who came to the home of a friend

of his, (Billy's), on the night of the American and Caribbean forces intervention, Reverend Billy said the soldier stated that after the grenades were thrown, an armoured car drove up and began firing into the crowd.

The reverend said the soldier, a pro-Bishop supporter, said that he had to throw himself down on the ground, holding down others to avoid being shot since he was in civilian clothes at the time.

"He was on sick leave at the time, as he had been previously shot accidentally in his army barracks, but he went to the demonstration because he was a pro-Bishop, but he could not get into the demonstration, heavily because he was a member of the PRA, the Trinidadian said.

He continued: "So I asked him how many persons were actually shot and he told me that from where he was before he left to run for his life, he saw about 60-something bodies on the ground not counting those who had jumped over the wall to escape... because he also jumped over that wall damaging his feet."

Going on to describe the wall, Reverend Billy said it was one at the back of the fort which had a big drop of 50 feet or more.

**DESPERATION**

He jumped over in desperation, people died, some broke their necks, some broke their ribs and he told me because he went back on duty the day after the shooting, that they were able to pick up many dead bodies.

Recounting the events leading up to that fateful afternoon, Reverend Billy said that while on his way to Liat's offices in St

Georges that morning, he had seen Unison Whiteman leading a crowd of demonstrators around the market square.

Noting that at the outset these were mainly children, the reverend said that gradually more elderly people became involved.

However, he stated that he passed behind the demonstrators and went to Liat's offices to reconfirmed his flight out of the island since he sensed that things were becoming serious.

On reaching there, he said he saw all of the airline's personnel demonstrating outside, in favour of the release of Mr. Bishop. Several, he added had placards which read, "C for Coard, C for communism; no Bishop no school."

Questioning one of the men, the reverend said he was told that there would be no flights for about two weeks and that he was not going to be told anything else unless they (personnel) saw Mr. Bishop's face for themselves.

It was at that point, he recounted, that he saw many buses with persons coming from areas in the country side, like Belmont and Grande Anse. The people in the buses too were holding placards he pointed out.

On leaving the airline's offices to get a bus to return to Victoria in the north of the island where he was staying at the time, Reverend Billy said he saw a huge crowd, like a "mini-carnival" assembled just before he left St. Georges, he saw the crowd take Unison Whiteman to the podium in the market square and there was a shout of applause as the crowd and Mr. Whiteman raised their hands.

The reverend recalled that when he reached home "some minutes to two o'clock" he heard on VOB or one of our local stations that the crowd had freed Mr. Bishop and he was to address the nation.

### SHOOTING

"We were all eagerly awaiting the prime minister's address but when the time came around, we didn't hear anything from the prime minister. Subsequently we heard that there was some shooting at the fort Rupert where Mr. Bishop and the crowd had

gone, but there was not any details as to who were killed just that four persons were killed. That's what they said initially.

It was later that evening, he pointed out, that he heard General Hudson Austin announce to the nation on Radio Free Grenada that there had been a demonstration at the fort which had led to shooting between the crowd and the PRA, and that Mr. Bishop, Mr. Whiteman, Ms. Jacqueline Creft, Mr. Norris Bain, Mr. Fitzroy Bain, and Mr. Vincent Noel and others were dead.

### Bishop's Death

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 4 Nov 83 p 3

[Text]

**FORMER Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, along with three of his cabinet colleagues and two trade unionists, was lined up against a wall in Fort Rupert and gunned down by four soldiers of the Peoples Revolutionary Army.**

According to Trinidadian, the Reverend Hamilton Billy, who was in Grenada during the bloody coup which overthrew the Bishop regime, this information was given to him by a soldier of the PRA one of whose friends was part of the execution squad.

Speaking in an interview on Rediffusion and the Voice of Barbados (VOB) on Wednesday, Mr. Billy, who was evacuated from Grenada last Saturday, said that on the Tuesday night of the intervention by the United States and Caribbean forces, this soldier came to the home of the friend he was staying at in St. George's and he (Billy) questioned him about the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Bishop and his colleagues.

"I asked him how Mr. Bishop was actually killed, and he said that after the army had thrown hand grenades and shot from an armoured car into the crowd, the crowd dispersed from the fort and then Mr. Bishop and the others came out with their hands in the air.

"They had lined them up close to some wall in the fort because one of the soldiers who had actually done the shooting with three others was the friend of this soldier whom I was speak-

ing with, and he said that they had told him they were given orders, that Mr. Bishop and the others would have to be executed on account of what had happened (a reference to the crowd's release of the prime minister and taking him to the fort).

"I asked him how Mr. Bishop reacted, and he told me that when Mr. Bishop was told that he had to be executed, he just took a deep sigh, folded his arms, turned around and four of the PRA soldiers were used to execute the people."

### PIECES OF FLESH

Reverend Billy stated that the soldier told him that he saw on the wall of the fort the following Thursday, pieces of hands and other flesh, that it was a horrifying situation and that there was a ghastly smell in the area.

In answer to a question about what had been done with the bodies, the Trinidadian minister said:

"I asked him what they had done to Mr. Bishop and the others and he said that he had inquired of the other soldiers, friends of his, what had happened to these people and was told they had dug a hole into which they had placed some of the bodies and they had put wood and burnt them around the Calvary area, because many people could see the smoke.

"That was during the state of curfew they had declared... it was for that reason... of clearing the dead away, because they were in such a bad condition, that is, the dead people, that you could have hardly recognised Mr. Bishop and the others after the shooting." Reverend Billy said the soldier told him.

## Immigration Officer's Account

Bridgetown **SUNDAY STAR** in English 6 Nov 83 p 9

[Text]

**ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada** — Former Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop ordered his supporters not to return fire from soldiers and surrendered before he was killed on October 19, a civil servant who was with Bishop at army headquarters said.

Peter Thomas, an immigration officer, joined the thousands of supporters who had earlier freed Bishop from house arrest, and carried him to Fort Rupert, the army headquarters.

Thomas, who received military training in Cuba while on an immigration officers' course, said he was getting ready to return fire when Bishop shouted "don't fire back".

There were about 100 people in the fort's main building at the time. "Nobody in the building actually fired back into the attackers," Thomas told CNA in an interview.

Thomas himself was slightly injured — a bullet graze on the head which drew bleeding — as bullets whizzed around penetrating the walls in the fort. Those inside the building threw themselves on the ground.

When they were asked to surrender, Thomas said he was one of the last to get out, followed immediately by Minister of Education Jacqueline Creft, Minister of Foreign Affairs Unison Whiteman, Bishop, and Minister of Housing Norris Bain. (The four of them were later killed, in an apparent execution, not witnessed by Thomas.)

Thomas said "out of the corner of my eye" I saw him (a soldier) come and put a rifle in front of Jacqueline who was behind me but in front of the other minister. I noticed she was actually being pushed back towards the ground floor of the building.

It was the last time he saw them. About two minutes later as he was making his way into the town centre "I heard a heavy burst of automatic fire and this

was when I personally thought the ministers were executed."

Following is Thomas' version of events.

"When we arrived at the fort, the prime minister seemed to hesitate for a while... and then he saw one of the officers (soldiers). I heard the prime minister address him as Bogman. He said 'Bogman, you are going to be in charge from now. I am holding you personally responsible to see that the crowds are not fired on and you take charge as from now.'"

I walked up together with the PM, foreign minister (Unison Whiteman) up to the front of the fort building. The prime minister stood there for a while and I personally advised him not to stay out in the open, since it would be dangerous for his security.

At the gate there were two soldiers, including a woman, standing at both sides of the gate and on seeing that the crowds came up to them, one of the people that were close to Mr Bishop went and attempted to grab the rifle from the woman soldier. In that attempt she fell to the ground and at that stage another of the people that was close to us took the rifle from her and actually came back and joined us.

We went up on the second floor of the fort building, then we had to kick a door open to enter the main building. I noticed quite a few members of the army around the building, but they were not attempting anything hostile... some were armed, some were not.

When we entered the main building, he (Maurice) was looking around, speaking to a few people... saying hello and so on. I prepared some seats around a long table that was inside the building and after that he gave me some orders.

He wrote on a piece of paper the telephone numbers of certain places and he gave me the instruction to go to the telephone company and see that the lines are opened and two lines of Bernard Coard (leader of the faction in the government that placed Bishop under house arrest, which he mentioned as hot lines, should be closed, so that he would not be able to get out to the public or such).

I could definitely remember that he wanted two lines to the fort open so that he could make

certain statements, that he could get in contact with some people. He also gave me the telephone line of Mr Alister Hughes (Grenada journalist) and he said see that Alister's lines are open, so that I can get in contact with him and he can possibly pass a message from me out of Grenada and out to the world (Hughes' phone had been cut).

(Thomas carried out the orders, taking with him his Russian-made AK47 Special — two other persons with him had similar rifles). After leaving the telephone company, he went to his office and removed about 15 weapons regularly kept there — AK 27s and M16 sub-machine guns and took them back to Fort Rupert.

I went back to the fort building, reported to the prime minister that I had carried out his instructions... I laid them (weapons) on a table and there were some people there who actually took up the rifles and armed themselves.

(At this time) some of us were having a soft drink, some were talking and so forth. With the prime minister at the table (having a meeting) were (among others) Jacqueline Creft, Norris Bain, Unison Whiteman, Vincent Noel and Fitzroy Bain (union leaders who were later killed).

There were some other army officers in there... I maintained a distance from what was being discussed... it would officially have been discussions between the ministers.

After finishing my drink we heard shots coming from the police point area, that would be leading up toward the fort. Heavy shots which would have come from the armoured vehicles (Three were said to have driven into the crowd outside and soldiers opened fire) and the AK rifles.

I heard heavy fire possibly from the armoured vehicle first and when this came closer it started ripping into the building. I heard one heavy thud of a rocket launcher come into the building. This was followed by a heavy volley of shots.

When the initial fire started penetrating the building, I ordered the crowd in the building who were at that time possibly hysterical or shocked on their feet. I saw the danger of it, knowing that the bullets were



penetrating the wall and I commanded them I said "Hit the ground and I did so myself. On falling to the ground I felt a sharp tug on my scalp and I noticed I got hit and was bleeding.

I actually saw a woman bleeding terribly from her head. There were quite a number of people, well at one sight, you could have seen that they could be dismissed as dead. This was the time we were allowed to look around because before that shots were passing over our heads and so forth.

Just before this, I suggested to Maurice who was very close to me that someone should go out and surrender. He actually said yes, but it is very dangerous at this moment to get up. Maybe about two minutes afterward, somebody from in front of us got up and went to a door on the left wing of the building and I heard that person say "comrades, we surrender you know."

I couldn't say who that person was because I was down on the ground trying to shelter the heavy downpour of bullets in the building.

I remember, among the people who actually had rifles, I was the first to cock my rifle and put a bullet up in the bridge and I removed the safety catch and when Maurice heard these sounds he commanded us "don't fire back". He said "Do not fire back". So as a matter of fact nobody from the fort building actually fired back into the attackers.

(After the surrender) I heard someone from outside shout "come out with your hands in the air". On hearing that the civilians who I think were the first to get out actually flooded the door to get out into what I think they considered safety.

(At this point Thomas said there had been, between 100-110 people in the building though some of them had been killed. He could give no estimate on the number of dead. I could tell from the wounds, they had, head wounds and so on, part of them

ripped off and so on.)

On getting out — I was among the last to get out, I was just in front of the ministers. We had to wait to let the civilians get out.

I could remember that I was actually approaching the first armoured vehicle on the fort with Jacqueline Creft following me, behind Jacqueline I think there would have been the foreign minister followed by Maurice and possibly Norris Bain.

I saw a slight movement to my left possibly among some shrubs that were growing on top of the wall of the fort building. I saw someone rustle out of the shrubs and say, "hold Jacqueline Creft, hold Norris Bain, hold Uni (Unison Whiteman), hold Maurice Bishop, don't let them get away."

At that stage, I saw out of the corner of my eye the person come forward with a rifle. I could not turn my face because of fear of being recognised. I saw him come out and put the rifle in front of Jacqueline who was behind me. I noticed that she was actually being pushed back toward the wall of the ground floor of the building just how we came out with our hands in the air.

I could not have seen what was taking place with the others because they were more or less at a direct angle behind my back. I did not see the soldier because I could not angle my head over my shoulders because I was very frightened. I knew that I was so much involved in the activities during the day, being recognised would have meant death too.

I continued walking down the passage to the fort way at my normal pace. After I reached to what I thought was relative safety for that moment, I dropped my hand and continued walking down the Young Street area just as I approached the Huggings building I heard a heavy burst of automatic fire and this was when I personally thought that the ministers were executed. (He estimated his walking distance to be two minutes).

## SEAGA SAYS NO ONE HAD SCOON LETTER REQUESTING INTERVENTION

Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 5 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Caribbean countries were not in possession of a letter from Grenada Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon requesting military intervention before multinational forces landed on Grenada Oct. 25, Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga said yesterday.

But Seaga said it was 'known from unimpeachable diplomatic sources that he (Sir Paul) wished our intervention.'

Seaga told reporters that the planning of the invasion took place against a serious time constraint and it proceeded partly on the basis that Sir Paul approved the action.

The Jamaica Prime Minister said that he was handed Sir Paul's formal letter when he visited St. Georges last Sunday. The text of the letter had already been released by the Barbados Government.

Seaga revealed that Sir Paul and Lady Scoon had to lie flat in their home from 6 a.m. on the day of the invasion (October 25) until 5 p.m. the next day.

When freed by U.S. marines, Seaga said Sir Paul was led away under a hail of fire.

The Jamaica Prime Minister said that one of the plans that had been looked at during the planning stages was a mission to 'rescue' Sir Paul.

But said he did not know of the plan, disclosed by Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams, an American official suggested going into Grenada to rescue the late Grenada Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop from under house arrest.

Mr. Bishop was killed October 19 in a military coup.

Seaga dismissed the United Nations General Assembly denunciation of the invasion, and said that the discussions there had set aside Article 8 of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States OECS treaty which gave OECS states the right to call for such action.

"Much of the debate has been around rather than to the point," he said.

CSO: 3298/179

## MANLEY DISSECTS GRENADA INVASION POINT BY POINT

Bridgetown SUNDAY SUN in English 6 Nov 83 pp 7, 15

[Text]

LET us begin by accepting that the invasion of the independent and sovereign state of Grenada by the military forces of the United States is popular throughout the smaller islands of the Eastern Caribbean region and has majority support in Jamaica. Nonetheless it is, in my view, wrong. Furthermore, I believe that it is going to set a precedent which we the Caribbean people will regret bitterly one day.

I was among the first in the world to denounce absolutely the detention and subsequent killing of Maurice Bishop. The party which I lead was united in the call for the non-recognition and isolation of the ruling military council and for CARICOM and international action such as selective sanctions to secure the downfall of that regime. So when I state my position I do not speak as any apologist for the events which came before the invasion.

When there is a murder, there is often the temptation to follow it with lynching. Lynchings often enjoy vast, emotional support at the moment. This does not make them right. Lynch law is the end of civilisation even where the man who hangs from the tree was clearly and unmistakably guilty. Accordingly, the popularity of the invasion does not influence judgement of the matter.

There is a principle in international relations that is sacred above all others. It is the principle of the sanctity of the sovereign territory. It is the principle which provides that foreign forces must never enter another man's territory unless properly invited by the duly constituted authority of that country to help it defend itself from some external threat. It is further understood that an invasion to save one's nationals under real threat in another country can be a special circumstance in justifying military intervention, limited to the rescue of the nationals so threatened.

Therefore, when we all go out on an emotional joyride about United States troops defeating the army of Grenada with its population of about 110 000, what we are celebrating is the abrogation of this most fundamental principle. Furthermore, the smaller we are the greater is our dependence on the principle and the more serious the implications of the breach.

So let us examine the reasons that have been advanced to justify this act of such shattering implications for the future.

Our first problem is that the grounds have changed from day to day. So I would take them in turn.

### 1. Restoring Democracy

If restoring democracy is to be the test, we must ask whose version of democracy, as decided by whom and to be imposed by whom, if Grenada, then we must instantly insist that Honduras, Guatemala, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Haiti, South Africa — to name but a few — must be taken on by United States force. Equally, the Soviet Union does not accept western democracy as true democracy. Presumably, therefore, the Soviet army must instantly march against the whole of Western Europe. A moment's reflection reveals that the argument is incoherent nonsense.

### 2. The invasion was a response to an invitation under the OECS treaty.

The treaty between the seven members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States is clear on two points. Firstly, the members pledge to come to each other's help if there is an external threat to their peace and security. Secondly, action of this kind must result from an unanimous decision.

Six of the seven members of the OECS say they felt threatened by Grenada. But Grenada is not an external entity, being itself a part of the organisation. In the second place, Grenada was not a party to the decision to have itself invaded.

Again, one has only to examine the proposition to see it collapse as nonsense. As to the suggestion that the governor general called for the invasion, one can only observe that this suggestion is surfacing very late in the day and certainly does not square with two other facts. One prime minister has already said that he wanted to invite Grenada to free Bishop. In any event, why did the representative of the queen of Grenada not send a message to his sovereign indicating his desire to have United States troops invade the country?

### **3. The safety of the United States students.**

The principal of the medical school appeared on United States television the day before the invasion stating that there was no danger. Two days later, he was again on television saying that there had been danger. Needless to say, the invasion itself had caused fighting in the vicinity of the medical facility and it seemed clear that the danger to the students only arose because of the invasion and the proximity of the school to the first target which was the new airport.

In any event, if the safety of the students were Washington's concern, the action would have been limited to that objective.

### **4. The threat posed by the airport.**

This is the most threadbare excuse of all. I rest my case on the evidence of the British construction firm which designed the airport and supervised all aspects of its construction. They have stated that there was absolutely no respect in which the airport at Point Saline was designed for military purposes. They have made a public statement that reduces to shreds any suggestion that the airport was anything other than a facility designed to take wide-bodied jets which is the basis of the modern tourist trade. Interestingly enough, there are at least three airports in the Caribbean that are bigger than the one in Grenada.

The fact of the matter is that the invasion and conquest of Grenada by United States forces was a political action carried out for political reasons in defiance of all international principle and precedent because certain prime ministers saw an opportunity to destroy a political process which they did not like and which was stupid enough to provide them with the opportunity and the pretext. President Ronald Reagan has long sought an excuse to destroy the New Jewel Movement and was only too happy to receive the invitation and act accordingly.

I put two final issues: what else could have been done and what are the implications of what has happened?

If CARICOM had taken action along the following lines:

1. Mobilise total diplomatic isolation
2. Cut off the supply of oil
3. Freeze the currency
4. Apply further selective sanctions such as the cutting off of spare parts, flows of ammunition, further arms and the like then a basis could have been laid to mortally weaken the military council. The council started out facing the massive opposition of the people because of the killing of Bishop. The evidence seems to suggest that it was already frightened and trying to back-track.

I believe, therefore, that a basis existed to commence negotiations for the surrender of power by the military council and the return of the country to civilian rule. No one can say exactly what course events would have taken in the light of such an approach. Of import, however, is the fact that the Grenadian people would have been an active part of the process by which their country was returned to civilian rule and we would have avoided the flood gates which now open to the future through the precedent we have set by our own actions.

And what are these implications? The next time the United States does not like a government it can point to these events the more readily to justify the interventions which it seeks to make. We have had a long and bitter history of United States intervention going back to the

19th Century. Honduras, Nicaragua, Cuba, Mexico, have all felt the power of United States forces on their sovereign soil because the United States did not like some local regime or turn to local events.

Since World War II, there has been Guatemala in the 1940s and the Dominican Republic in the 1960s. But never has this happened to the English-speaking Caribbean. At one stroke we have now added our territories to the list which can be seen as fair game because of this intemperate, hasty and entirely ideological decision to invite a foreign army to solve our problems.

Some have said it is a bold act. But what is bold about inviting a mighty military nation to "knock over" one of the smallest nation states in the world? It smacks more of the most timid and regressive neo-colonialist cowardice to me. I end with the question: who will be next and what will be the consequences next time?

CSO: 3298/180

## JAPANESE UNHAPPY WITH LAW ON FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Oct 83 pp 4-A, 29-A

[Article by Antonio Garza: "Japan Plans to Establish 20 Industries on Mexican Shore"]

[Text] Tokyo, 10 October--"We are a little bit afraid of Mexico," said T. Iguchi, director of the Japan Consulting Institute, and Masaru Inoue, director of the Organization for the Promotion of Joint Japanese-Mexican Investments, stated: "We have 20 new projects for the installation of industrial facilities on Mexican shores which have been delayed because we do not have any partners there."

Japan invested something like \$700 million in industrial establishments in Mexico as of this date. "This fear," Iguchi explained, "springs from the fact that there is no legal stability; the viewpoint regarding foreign investments keeps changing constantly, perhaps because you are afraid of that; but in the final analysis, that is not your fault. Perhaps it is the fault of the United States?"

The interview with the two representatives of large Japanese industrial groups was held simultaneously at the Businessmen's Club and, in addition to giving their opinions, the two officials asked the reporter some questions which were answered without satisfaction to the Japanese.

Every new Japanese project requires a minimum investment of \$500,000, in other words, the 20 pending projects are worth something like \$10 million in the beginning and will include manufacturing branches, basically in the secondary petrochemical industry.

## Seeking Change

When it was explained to them that these changes are relative because the basic idea between the Foreign Investment Law was to protect the country, they were not convinced and argued:

"Mexico must change that law--and please print our statement that way. It must grant a higher percentage for foreign investments because we cannot find any partners; the projects are ready and this delay harms both you and us. We want



to do business, as I will want to start; the important thing is a fair profit for both parties," they said.

They were told that the Foreign Investment Law, according to the opinion prevailing in the new administration, was flexible; in other words, there was a possibility for permitting the establishment of an enterprise completely with foreign capital.

"Yes," they replied, "but the law does not say so"; and they added: "The law has to be discussed."

Mexico City, Mexico.

They concluded that an investment study mission would come to Mexico between 2 and 12 November.

They concluded that Japan's interest in Mexico is not temporary.

"We have a complete map on the location of industrial establishments along the coastlines in Mexico," they announced. According to estimates made by them, this would lead to the project around 300 different investment projects in Mexico, especially in areas of industrial ports, that is, Lazaro Cardenas, Michoacan; Altamira, Tamaulipas; Coatzacoahuas, Veracruz, and Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, plus other estimates and in Ensenada, BCS [Northern Lower California?]; La Paz, BCS [Southern Lower California], etc.

The study also prominently mentions the Ostin Lagoon in Tabasco and is signed by Carlos Fierro, president of the Board for the Promotion of Investments in Mexico.

"We are open to the idea of joint investments," they said. "It seems that there is an interest by Mexico for opening new sources of work. The Mexican capitalists, it seems, do not want to move their money from their bank accounts or their real estate," they said.

During their next trip, they will hold official consultations and the basic question will be: "What guarantee will you give us for 100-percent Japanese investment?"

Another aspect mentioned to them involves the labor unions which, although they do exist in others, never call a strike. The moment the workers join an enterprise, they feel that they are members of it and they work in it all their lives.

In conversation, it was also admitted that average wages in Japan are very much higher than wages in Mexico. The average wage is \$1,000 per month, as compared to \$100 Mexican pesos.

The Japanese are bothered by the fact that there are labor unions in countries such as Mexico which do not go on strike and which paralyze the enterprises.

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## FOUNDING OF JAPANESE IN-BOND COMPANIES BEING DISCUSSED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Oct 83 p 4-A

[Article by Antonio Garza M.: "Gonzalez Galvez Negotiating on Establishment of Japanese In-Bond Companies in Mexico"]

[Text] Tokyo, 11 October--Ambassador Sergio Gonzalez Galvez is negotiating with the Foreign Trade Organization of Japan (JETRO), which is directed by Takahiro Okazaki, on the establishment of Japanese enterprises in Mexico, intended to turn out custom-work products, both for that country and the United States market, thus making use of cheap Mexican labor.

Takahiro Okazaki and Noubo Kimuro said that "we can make use of Mexico's geographic location to produce articles intended for export. We already have specific projects which can be carried out soon."

"We assign much importance to the United States market and this is why we are interested in establishing enterprises in Mexico because of their closeness to the United States," said Tajime Ohta, deputy director of Keidanren, which is the Federation of Economic Organizations of Japan.

He mentioned the fact that his country grew quite considerably because it entered the market of competition and because it managed to produce its articles efficiently and economically.

Gonzalez Galvez said that he was sure that trade between the two nations would develop even further, first of all because the petroleum quota for Japan was increased two weeks ago from 110,000 to 160,000 barrels per day and because the sale of Japanese spare parts and equipment for Mexican industry is being resumed.

He also announced that Japan will establish ten factories in Mexico for petroleum byproducts.

There is also an important exchange going on with respect to the training of technicians. Japan is giving courses to Mexicans on industrial technology and Japanese are being trained in Mexico in the hydrocarbons industry, especially with respect to refineries and basic petrochemical plants.

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CSO: 3248/167

CHIAPAS LAND SAID GIVEN TO PSUM-, CIOAC-CONTROLLED GROUPS

Textile [unintelligible] LA VOZ DEL SURORTE in Spanish 5 Oct 83 pp 1, 5

["Chiapanecan Chronicle" column]

[Excerpt] During the short term of squandering by PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] leader Jose Rodriguez, the state government acquired several farms that it gave to peasant cells manipulated by the PSUM and the CIOAC [Independent Central Organization of Agricultural Workers and Peasants]. It was assumed that these fully productive farms would be paid for by the peasants themselves. At the beginning, they were assured the revenue from the crops to be harvested but, as happened in all similar cases, those who had the farms devoted themselves to everything except work. In addition to practically ending agricultural or livestock production, this meant that they have not been able to pay back the credit given them through a trust that BANCRIISA [expansion unknown] handled. Naturally the leaders who are now pressuring the government to give them new land, release imprisoned peasants and recognize the union of temporary workers actively participated in this negotiation. As can be seen, the main idea is to force the government to forgive a debt that did benefit the peasants--they knew they had food during the time these farms produced. Already expropriated and abandoned now, the debt does not represent any benefit for them, much less their leaders who have taken the largest cut. In short, it is blackmail; it is pressure so that the government headed by Castellanos Fortoyas will forgive the debt of many millions of pesos. It is also an attempt to force it to give new land and farms which have already been selected. The plan of Jose Rodriguez and partners, encouraged by those who bought the farms, was to invade different places in the state. However, when they saw that this escalation could be ill-fated, not for the peasants but for them, they decided to change tactics and take the route of blackmail and pressure. What would the corollary of this movement be? That the government forgive the debt. Politically, however, what would it mean for the present regime that is acting according to law? It would be like returning to anarchy and giving strength to the recalcitrant left which has gained control of the minds of the ignorant men in the fields. During the meetings in which the peasants have been misled, many things have become obvious. Giving in would be like turning back on the road traveled. The marchers continue on their way, weakened by disease and fatigue, but not their leaders. Unfortunately seated in their vehicles, they continue to harangue the marchers. They are the ones who should be in jail.

END

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CHURCH FIGURES ADDRESS SOCIAL, POLITICAL ISSUES

Bishop Talamas on Corruption

Mexico City EXHIBITION in Spanish 7 Oct 83 p 4-A

[Article by Federico Ortiz Jr.]

[Text] The church supports the fight against corruption "which must be carried on" to the very end. There are still very few corrupt people who have been prosecuted. This should not be interpreted as an attack against the government but as support for the popular clamor for President de la Madrid.

Monsignor Manuel Talamas Camandari, the bishop of Ciudad Juarez who presides over the Church Mass Media Committee, told the press this morning before closing the Seventh Meeting of Delegates of Church Mass Media held in a Lascruces Retreat House.

Asked about the president's statements during his first press conference on Wednesday, the bishop told about 20 delegates and 300 press journalists:

"I praise what the president has done during these 10 months of government, especially prosecuting the corrupt men who have betrayed the people. I feel that it is a thorny problem but it must be done."

"I disagree that the fight against corruption is not a will-quest...." [no continuation--as published]

Talamas Backs Nicaraguan Revolution

Mexico City UNIMARUND in Spanish 7 Oct 83 p 4-A

[Article by Teresa Gil]

[Text] Bishop Manuel Talamas, president of the Church Mass Media Council, indicated yesterday that when the mass media are in the hands of totalitarian groups, it is normal that all the measures they implement reflect the ideological and economic interests of those groups. The bishop said they create artificial needs in the population.

The diocesan official also condemned the ideological manipulation by the multinational news agencies. He stated that their messages reveal the interests they serve.

At the closing ceremony of the Seventh Meeting of Bishops' Communications Promoters, Talamas explained that there is broad freedom of expression in the written press in the country but not in the other mass media which have many restrictions. However, he felt that all the media "need to overcome the stage of sectarianism and the vested interests of the economic and political groups."

At the same ceremony, Felipe Aquilino Franco, auxiliary bishop of Tuxtla Gutierrez, Tlaxcala, emphasized that the church gives opinions on national reality in exercise of its freedom of expression. He added that there are many who want to make the voice of the church and limit it to the church itself but those who have power are not always at church.

Manuel Talamas, bishop of Chihuahua, emphasized that today more than ever there must be communication between governors and those governed. This dialogue must be "frank and open, without being suspect. It is also necessary to verify the sincerity of the dialogue."

He stated that making the church's interest in public life suspect is an attempt to hinder and even nullify its specific mission. He stated that, as a counterpart, the church is trying now to eliminate the resistance it finds in order to be able to overcome the injustices that exist not only in Mexico but in the Third World.

He also explained that the fact that the church emphasizes corruption so much does not mean that it considers this the root of all evil in the country. He added that lack of democracy leads to corruption. If the people had the chance to really elect their governors, there would not be such serious cases of corruption as we suffer now.

The prelate regretted that the stage of animosity against the church has not been overcome and that there are people who strive to make it look suspect, selfish and partisan "when," he said, "in reality the anxiety of the powerful who see that the church has chosen the option of the poor has become obvious."

In addition, the diocesan spokesman denied that there is corruption in the church. He explained that there are always sinners but not defrauders of the public wealth or the national treasury.

He also denied that he asked the voters of Chihuahua to vote for the PAN (National Action Party), explaining that he only exhorted the people to vote. He stated that when he learned that other parties had won municipal presidential in those elections, he asked from the pulpit that they be fully recognized.

With respect to the problems in Central America, he stated that Nicaragua has the right to advance its revolution and condemned the aggressions that that people is suffering. He added that the church condemns any aggression against any other country.

Talamas pointed out that a review of the presence of the church in mass media was made during the communications meeting. He stated that the people want to hear more from the church, want to hear the precise opinion of the church, especially with so many economic problems and so much injustice in the country.

The archbishop also referred to the interview President De la Madrid granted the *Avvenire* (in Italian) reporters. He pointed out that his points of view "are acceptable" but perhaps things should be carried out to the very end because occasionally the root of the problem is not reached.

Next, when asked about abortion, Talamas stated that the secular point of view is prevailing and that there is an attempt to separate the legal aspect from the moral aspect.

#### Views on Situation in Chiapas

Mexico City UNWASUNG in Spanish / Oct 8/ p 3

[Article by Teresa Gil]

[Text] Felipe Aguirre Franco, auxiliary bishop of Tuxtla Gutierrez, told this newspaper that the peasants must be heard and clearly told what is going to be done for them. Their deception must not continue. He was referring to the march to Mexico City by Chiapas peasants. He added that this march reflected the distressing situation of the Mexican peasantry and the little response they have received from the state and federal government.

The mother superior of that diocese, Maria del Carmen Pio Arechiga, referred to the "long-suffering reality" in Chiapas. She said that the sustenance of the peasantry in the hope "that some day there will be a government that faithfully responds to their interests."

In reference to the marching peasants, Father Manuel Lopez of Tacambare indicated that the majority of the natives in his state are exploited by organizations and people who have nothing to do with the communities but, in the end, are those who govern them.

Aguirre Franco said that there is political passion in Chiapas but that attitudes have not been taken to fight it mainly, he stated, "because money is power." He explained that the church supports the peasant fight, not with violence but by asking them to demand their rights through effective actions.

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OFFICIALS CONCERNED OVER PUBLIC SAFETY DECLARED

Police Chief's Appeal on Firearms

WASH. (UPI) LOCALS FOR IN MARCH 2011 11:11 PM 11-A, 11-A

ARTICLE BY LUISA BARRERA FOR MARCH 2011: "Mata Sanchez Asks for 'more' arms?"

(UPI) In announcing yesterday public security plans to protect the citizens as well as measures to fight crime, the man in charge of the Directorate General of Police and Traffic, Ramon Mata Sanchez, urged citizens of the capital not to carry firearms since the police are in a position to guard banks, business establishments, industrial plants, and the subway, both in public and in their homes.

He admitted that the Federal District is currently going through a period of greater violence and hostility. Criminals have improved their methods but the police must improve the fight against crime with better tactics and better-trained and equipped personnel and will in a responsible manner discharge their job of watching over the interests of the inhabitants of this great city which, like other cities throughout the world, is suffering from the blow struck by an underworld that has grown.

The police official expressed the belief that, although the new equipment which the government of the republic has turned over to the DGT (Directorate-General of Police and Traffic) is not sufficient to take care of public safety needs in the Federal District, a plan has been drafted which will make for more effectiveness in the fight against the underworld. He denied that the police are neglecting their current operations and are taking care only of the requests from persons afflicted by crime.

Mata Sanchez sat with members yesterday during a breakfast and said that, in order to fight more effectively against crime, he needs permanent coordination between the police of the Federal District and of the State of Mexico, primarily with the seven municipalities that were made separate with Mexico City. This, the official said, was possible because security was not only fighting crime when good results but he was also achieving collaboration and closer relations between the Federal Police Department.

He then said that, on request of Magistrate ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~, the Department under his command developed a series of minimum standards to enable citizens to adopt security measures both in their homes, on the job, in public, in commercial establishments, banks, and industrial plants; and why he believed that the citizen of the capital must become aware of the problems which the capital is having at this time; these problems are not the same the city faced 10 or 20 years ago, but are of the same magnitude.

He pointed out that pamphlets have been prepared with this in mind; they will be distributed free of charge in the various sections of the Federal District; at the same time he noticed that police authorities are conducting studies with a view to getting the citizens to cooperate with the metropolitan police and report antisocial situations in various parts of the city. "We are in no way in favor of creating a psychosis of terror among the citizens. We do not recommend that people carry firearms."

He agreed that the police department is not efficient in many aspects, since there are still individuals who are involved in extortion and other crimes. He also admitted that there are individuals with little or no training and that there are shortcomings; but "we are working hard every day to train the police to do their duty."

In conclusion he announced that increases in public service rates are due to the authority granted by the Finance Law of the Department of the Federal District; but he commented that he did not know what basic information was used by those who conducted the studies in determining the increase percentages.

#### Neighborhood Riots Continue

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Oct 83 p 22-3

[Article by Alfredo Ramos R.: "Residential Area Given 'Independence' for Protection against Criminals"]

[Text] Atizapan, Mex., 6 October--Wire fences, grilles, and padlocks were placed on the main roads leading to the swanky La Hacienda Golf Club residential development, surrounded by extremely poor sections. The Settler Association ordered this separation measure, arguing that there is no adequate police surveillance in this area and that kidnappings and other violent crimes take place at all hours.

"It makes you feel real bad, with them trying to put you off from the other social classes. I do not think that this type of street and road development is a good thing," said Soledad Cruz de Mendez, wife of a resident of this locality, with homes worth more than 100,000 pesos. She said that the situation with water shortage ever.

"We all have the right to demand better urban protection but there is no reason to close the street to all citizens," added Soledad Cruz de Mendez.

Hundreds of liters of water are used daily in this section of the township of Atizapan de Zaragoza to water the lawns of the golf club which is located in this exclusive residential area.

When the reporter from EXCELSIOR tried to find out whether there was any authorization for this "closing" of the streets, the assistant controller of the Settler Association, Lucia Garcia Sanchez, told him that association members "can be interviewed only after a prior summons."

Around this section, scores of families living in the low-income developments of Chicomilco, La Higuera, and others, daily ask for the construction of more streets, the supply of more drinking water, better public transportation, markets, and other services.

Lucia Garcia Sanchez said: "I understand that the access roads leading to this subdivision were closed because there is no safety anywhere. I believe that this is one of the main reasons."

Letter carrier Abel Rivero Oropeza, who daily pedals his bicycle along the well-kept streets of the subdivision, with Grand Marquis, Mustangs, Le Baron, and other sports and imported cars parked along the curb, said:

"I do not understand these people. Now, to deliver my mail, I have to take the long way around. They say they are doing this for security. On some occasions, I have to stop working to answer many questions by police. That is not fair for me to earn my wage."

Officer Zenaido Vite Perez, who is in charge of police protection for the first subdivision of the State of Mexico and possibly the entire country, in ordering the streets and avenues to be closed and having wire fences, grilles, and padlocks put in position, said:

"I do not know why the people who live here blocked the access roads leading to this place. There are only three police patrols in this subdivision and they are not enough to provide adequate protection."

The people in the city hall of Atizapan de Zaragoza and in the transportation department "do not know the reasons and legal basis that persuaded the members of the Settler Association of this residential subdivision to close the connecting streets."

Atizapan de Zaragoza is a township which has distinguished itself by its indifference to the destruction of its woods. This job is being done with impunity by a group of subdivision residents who have investments not only in this city but throughout the State of Mexico.

Hundreds of hectares of woods are being cut down west of the city hall of Atizapan de Zaragoza in residential subdivisions in spite of the lack of streets, as well as the shortage of drinking water and other services.

It is probable that this "separatism" put into practice by the Settler Association of the La Hacienda Golf Club will soon be copied by the inhabitants of more than 100 residential subdivisions in the townships of Huixquilucan, Arribas, Tlalnequillas, Cuautitlan, Ixcalli, Ecatepec, and other towns.

As of now, more than 1.5 million persons residing in the hills and ravines of the above-mentioned townships, where there is a shortage of almost everything, have not been thinking in terms of putting up wire fences and are only concerned with continuing to try to get jobs and a few liters of drinking water every 10 hours.

#### Wire Streets Closed Off

Mexico City EXAMINER in Spanish 24 Oct 83 pp 4-A, 36-A

[Text] Ever since last year, when the citizens seemed to be already sick and tired of the wave of house burglaries and in view of the incompetence and corruption of police in the Federal District, hundreds of citizens of the capital began to take their own security measures.

To do that, the people living in several areas--the whole thing began at the Prad-Thurston development--closed their streets with chains, especially at night; they erected little guard huts in several places and nobody is allowed to move in these areas at a certain time except with full identification.

The arguments for and against these measures are simple. On the one hand, authorities of the department of the District say that it is unlawful to obstruct streets and that, in the majority of cases, this was done without asking permission. On the other hand, the inhabitants maintain that they have a right to protect themselves not only against thieves but against the police.

This example has spread, especially in the developments south of the capital, such as Dapa, Tomas del Pedregal, Coyoacan, some boroughs of Tlalpan and even several housing developments, such as Tlatelolco, where the lateral highway from Paseo de la Reforma has been practically closed to traffic.

These inhabitants also cooperate to pay the wages of a permanent guard, a situation which is more noticeable at night; they have also paid for the purchase of chains and the construction of the little guard huts. The guards make approximately 15,000 pesos, on the average, from the neighborhood associations--and, according to some, this is nothing, considering the climate of insecurity in which the capital lives.

We do not know whether closing the streets at night is illegal or not but we do believe that it is legal for us to protect ourselves, to protect our homes, our belongings, and to be on the lookout for the police, said a lady living in Prad-Thurston, where at nightfall the streets are closed with chains that prevent unknown vehicle or pedestrian from passing through the area.

"In view of this wave of crime and police inefficiency," she added, "the citizen has the right to defend himself and to protect his property but even more so when the agency responsible for providing security for the population has not carried out a publicity drive to prevent burglaries and kidnaps and when it did not stop the crime wave as it should have done."

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CSO: 3248/179

## BRIEFS

**CENTRAL AMERICANS 'LAND GRABBERS' --Tapachula, Chis.--**The owners of plots of land in the Burocratica district of this city presented a formal complaint against the Central American invaders who illegally took possession of these farms, "sponsored," they said, by municipal president Joaquin del Pino Trujillo. The complainants indicated that 25 lots are in the possession of Central Americans, mainly Salvadorans and Guatemalans, who are preparing to build housing on foreign land, supported by the mayor. They asked the Attorney General's Office to evict the invaders. They will also go to the State Congress so that, with its powers under the state constitution, it calls Joaquin del Pino Trujillo to account. They condemned him, saying "he only created problems for Gen Asaion Castellanos Dominguez' government." The Attorney General's Office decided to send officials there to investigate the case through a socio-economic and political survey to determine responsibilities. The bureaucrats affected work for federal offices like the SARH [Secretariat of Agricultural and Water Resources], Agrarian Reform, Finance, Programing and Budget, etc. They were recently given the land involved where each plans to build housing. The complainants explained that the support that Del Pino Trujillo is giving to the invaders and illegal aliens is part of the commitment he made to them during his political campaign. Lacking popularity, he made them offers he has not been able to fulfill so that they would participate as "supporters" at each meeting he held. Now he is helping them and causing serious problems for the government. [Text] [Tuxtla Gutierrez LA VOZ DEL SURORTE in Spanish 1 Oct 83 p 1, 2] 7717

**DIMINISHED VERACRUZ CORN CULTIVATION--Veracruz, Ver. [Veracruz], 14 October--**The director of agriculture of the state government, Rafael Lira Morales, admitted that agricultural production in the area continues to decline and proof of this is the fact that corn growers only set aside 300,000 hectares for the cultivation of that crop whereas last year they planted 600,000. He explained that this is due to the fact that guaranteed prices on farm products ceased to be attractive to the peasants who prefer to devote their land to other, more profitable activities. [Excerpt] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Oct 83 p 7-D] 5058

**REDUCED CULTIVATION IN BAJA CALIFORNIA--Ensenada, BCN [Northern Lower California], 20 October--**Due to the lack of loans, the farmers in the region will, during the winter farming cycle, cultivate only 15,000 hectares. In announcing the above, the chief of the seasonal district, Antonio Chacon Dominguez, said that this surface area represents 20 percent of the area that was cultivated 4 years ago in that zone. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 21 Oct 83 p 33-A] 5058

### COUNTRY SECTION

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## PROFESSOR JOURNALIST: GREGORY J. GORDON IN NORTH

Butler, M. 1990. In *Archaeology of the Past*, 55-60.

[Article by Eric Winterley and John Hertoghe: "We Shall Beat Them, Now, They Shall Not Beat Us - I gave to them what the Government was like before the Revolution but the Sandinistas are on the side of the Peasants and the Workers"]

Next, the members of the FDN (Nicaraguan Democratic Front), the Contras, supported and equipped by the United States and the hardline government, are quite determined to turn the wheel of history backward. For that purpose, they are using the same that they have always been fond of: violence. In the provinces of northern Nicaragua, the "harvest" of coffee beans will begin in November and it is still expected that 7,000 tons of coffee that will be gathered. More than half will be sold abroad and should bring in 50 million for Nicaragua. The Contras and the hardline government in the north, the Sandinists are waiting for the revolution.

It is still unknown as to whether this. The earthquake of 1971 broke its back. Since the 1971 event, it is therefore extends lengthwise. Various 7.4 in magnitude. The direction which sometimes take on the character of a strike-slip. Because of this, the blocks move about on foot.

that morning, children and old women were walking under the sun. They were following two soldiers, armed by the black and red flag of the Sandinista front. Behind the women, there were two youths from their district--two children who had volunteered to go off and fight in the north because they thought that the Sandinista revolution deserved to be defended to the end. A year in the support war line, the bullets of the contras had put an end to their existence. The weapons will be returned to other youths. Because customs were here that all youths of Nicaragua will perhaps be played out in the north, in the mountains of Costa Rica, Matriz and Esteli, which were the center of the agrarian movement, most of the coffee, which is produced in the mountains of Deseado, is grown in that zone. Because the mountains and the mountains are there, on the other side of the Rio Coco, because there is a lot of coffee for the peasants of Las Segovias. And



Large numbers of female olive-backed and cinnamon-colored flycatchers, along with other interesting, but rarer species, were taken during the study. The olive-backed flycatcher is common throughout the north. Flycatchers, like birds, are very gregarious. They often form a flock just for the purpose of feeding. No species of birds are very tame, but

[illegible]

communities situated near Honduras. Here, 14 kilometers from the border, self-defense is easier. The first men set out on 28 November 1982 to build the habitations from plans furnished by a government contractor. Starting on 14 February 1983, the families came to occupy the 85 cabins rising out of the earth. Here, the cooperative's members grow corn (for their own consumption) and "frijoles" (black beans, a true national dish), and the livestock remains individually owned. The peasants show with pride their "children's dining room" where the children take their meals. A little higher up, a school is nearing completion.

Brigido Garcia sets down his rifle and explains: "Before the Revolution, you know, we did not know how to read or write, we led individual lives, without knowing anything about the cooperative system. Now we are organized and responsible, we help one another, and the children's health is better. I do not have much of an idea about what the government was like before the Revolution, but the Sandinistas are on the side of the peasants and the workers. Furthermore, in Somoza's time, only the wealthy and the National Guard had weapons, but the government has given us rifles to defend ourselves with, it trusts us." He gets up and goes back out on patrol.

His wife, Bernarda, offers us coffee. She belongs to the AMNLAE [expansion unknown], the association of Nicaraguan women, the only mass organization established in the cooperative. Catholic all the same. Everyone goes to mass every Sunday. "Here, with the children's dining room, the health brigades, life is easier for the women. What the government promises, it does." We spend the evening with Brigido standing guard in a small entrenchment that dominates one of the entrances to the cooperative. In the first half-year, 16 peasants were murdered in the Las Segovias region. Three squads, of 15 militiamen each, keep watch on the cooperative day and night, in shifts. Everything was calm on that evening; the cooperative has never been attacked yet. And so we go back to sleep at Brigido's place. A wooden panel that serves as the roof of an antiaircraft shelter will do as a bed.

#### El Estero: the Mountain Is My Home

As one gets closer to the border, the Panamerican becomes deserted. Civilians are rarer, and soldiers guard all the bridges. We will be the last to get off the bus, just below the militia outpost, a few kilometers from the border post of El Estero. Once our accreditations have been checked, Ramon Donald, the young platoon leader who runs the place, forms a patrol to take us all the way to the line with Honduras. The young Nicaraguans underarms who escort us to the border are reservists. The Sandinist regular army is rarely installed in the front line, on the principle that the terrain is always defended better by the local militiamen, who know the region well. In the [expansion unknown] takes action only in the event of a "hard strike." On the inside of his jacket, Ramon Donald wears a small likeness of Lenin. All his men have tied black and red ribbons--the colors of the FSLN--to the barrels of their AK-47's. "Cover us, we're going down to see the customs," he says and then he says:

The buildings are destroyed; the hut that housed the electric-power generator is barely standing. The few houses are now only a shelter for the few pigs abandoned here by the inhabitants of El Espino, forced to abandon the place.

At 4:30 am on 25 September, several hundred contras, supported by mortar fire from the Honduran Army, attacked El Espino, where 400 civilians lived. Quite an easy matter: the mountain that dominates the site and the slope lying down from the Customs are part of Honduran territory. The Sandinistas had to withdraw several kilometers before, thanks to reinforcements, they could put the contras back into the "hot bucket." The combats resulted in three dead on each side.

Ramon Donaldo picks up, in passing, some FAL cartridge cases (from a Belgian rifle used by the contras) and some fragments of mortar shells or RPG-7's, of Chinese manufacture. Before leaving, the contras wrote on a wall: "Long live Nicaragua free of communism." Up there on the ridge, Honduran soldiers and contras are observing us.

We go back down, contemplating the mountain. Superb country, but difficult to control.

"It must be difficult to fight here."

"No, no, it is our country, we know it well. On the other side is an army, but here it is the people under arms. We are not fighting for a miserable paycheck, but because it is our land. The mountain is my home."

Before leaving the place, Ramon Donaldo called out a few insults to those opposite us--"sons of whores" and "cuckolds." As for the belt, canteen and quartz watch that he wears, he took them from a contra.

If there were not a war on, the tourists would doubtlessly like to come to Ocotal, for the town is very appealing. But the bridge has been dynamited, and one has to cross over planks on foot. Here, the tension goes up a notch. At each street corner, at the entries to the market, are sandbag barricades, waiting only to be manned by defenders. Just across from the baroque church, the militia headquarters serves as a rallying point. Men who remind one of Gato Maltese, wearing disparate uniforms, come and go past the wall with its loopholes. Here too, everything is done to facilitate things for us. "You must see Esperanza, the Front official." We would wait for her on the border road. The motorcyclist carrying her stops. Esperanza approaches to greet us. She has a big American pistol in her hand. The zone is not very secure.

It is Saturday evening. Like everywhere else in the world, the young people of Ocotal go dancing, except that here, militia members carrying weapons stroll between the tables of the bar-restaurant-dance hall while Silvio Iglesias belts out his song.

No one turns away, that is part of the landscape (as published). Then the Sandinist police propose that we go on a night patrol with them. The work of the volunteer policemen consists essentially in going from one

...the military of the FIC's (Sandinista) ...  
...revolutionary vigilance."

...the watch is kept from 10 pm to 4 am.  
...the government to (work with the visual guards) those  
...there is nothing abnormal. They we  
...this system can, of course, lead to  
...lives of the populace. Fortunately  
...since it is also in  
...involved in food supply. "In ad-  
...newsletter in order for peo-  
...there are few responses,  
...mobilization is weakening."

...the situation into account

...a sergeant, has the job of poli-  
...the entire region. He has been an  
...the northern and southern  
...that time has been doing his political  
...of the state and from  
...to know how to restrain our

...the militia will pass up to the  
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with me. I am not to move my. Nervousness and misgivings are obvious in  
Lieutenant Garcia's face. And one understands why. The mountainous, steep, and  
steeply sided hills of three miles shelter the Honduran positions. Some miles  
west of the international line (whereas the international convention stipulates  
that troops must stay at least 200 meters away from the border), these are  
over there, just over their boundary. The night before, the Honduran army  
valleys toward the positions of the TGF platoon that guards Las Manas. And  
again, the Nicaraguans did not really. The mission of Lieutenant Garcia and his  
men is limited to slowing down any eventual attack so as to enable the army  
to organize defense farther down. Before leaving, we wish them good luck.  
They wished it indeed.

The central bus station resembled an oriental caravansary. At all times, one had  
to wait. Looking at the travelers, one sees right away that while most of the  
Nicaraguans are of mixed race, the inhabitants of Las Americas have more of  
Indian blood in their veins. This perhaps explains their stolidity. And if  
it needed, lifting above the rattled truck crossing rivers on wooden bridges  
or simply fording them, the bus will take 3 hours to cover the 100 kilometers  
between Central and Jalapa, the last town before Teotihuacan. The village  
of Jalapa seems that town very disagreeable. The population seems very  
different than elsewhere. It was explained to us that many families, men and  
women in the national guard who have probably gone over to the contrary. "But  
don't worry, we're keeping an eye on all those people." There were 100 people  
at Sunday evening mass. All the same, the Mexican parish priest did not  
forget to ask his flock to pray "for those who exercise responsibility in  
the government and those who are fighting to defend the Nicaraguans."

At the San Gerardo, the duty officer wanted to refer us to "the Ministry in  
charge of public relations," who unfortunately was absent. Finally, he ar-  
ranged a second lieutenant to take us to Teotihuacan. To the Nicaraguans,  
rules are of interest only if they are useful. If not, one finds a subtle  
evolution. This is a quality as rare as it is estimable.

On the road, second lieutenant Rufio Rodriguez would encounter troops, and  
instead of saluting him in military fashion, would make great friendly ges-  
tures to him. Despite the war, a relaxed attitude is always in vogue with  
the soldiers of the army.

At Teotihuacan, an observation post dominates the plain, over and above the  
hillsides of Honduran mountains. It makes you believe that Honduras is  
anti-communist. A 15-year-old militiaman is on watch at the top of the ob-  
servation post. Last June, the contras tried to seize Teotihuacan. In his  
opinion, Rufio Rodriguez, they were trying to establish a bridgehead in order  
to set up a provisional government in it that they could have put under the  
control of the Central American states. In vain.

A peasant army of 1000. The inhabitants, evacuated after the invasion of  
June, are coming back to their homes.

"Wouldn't you like to move?"

"And go where? We are finally getting used to the war." Unfortunately.

The second lieutenant offers to pay for our coffees, but the woman refuses to take anything.

"As you see, the Sandinist army does not take its supplies from the peasants at the point of a gun. They trust us because we are a popular army. For us of officer rank, the example we must give is more important than formal discipline. Furthermore, the people have proved that they know how to overthrow strong powers. If the people wish to take our weapons back from us, they will do so."

As we head back down toward Jalapa in a truck, a young man from the countryside tells us how, in June, he fought for several days alongside a few compañeros who had come to help him defend his farm, located quite close to the border. "I don't know how I came through it." Now his family lives in Managua. He comes back every day to farm his land--but only a part of it, because the other fields are too exposed to the contras' fire.

All this time, our second lieutenant was standing in the back of the truck, his Kalashnikov resting on his forearm, next to a splendid young peasant woman who had flowers in her hair.

We do not know whether he whispered in her ear this sentence so often written on the walls of the northern villages: "We shall beat them, love, they shall not pass."

11267

CSO: 3219/8

## MNU VIEWS INVASION OF GRENADA AS 'UNWARRANTED'

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 28 Oct 83 p 10

[Text]

The leadership of the Movement for National Unity (MNU) met in an emergency session again on 25th October, 1983, to discuss the Invasion of Grenada by American, Jamaican, Barbadian and OECS armed forces. Emerging from the discussions is the following statement:

The Movement for National Unity (MNU) views with horror and profound sadness the current tragedy unfolding in Grenada. From the very beginning the MNU denounced both the brutal murders of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and his colleagues on the one hand and the threat of foreign military intervention on the other. According, we urged a peaceful solution to the crisis and were thus at one with the Governments of Trinidad and Tobago, Bahamas, Guyana and Belize.

As such we consider the military invasion of

Grenada by the United States of America at the behest of Barbados, Jamaica and the OECS countries to be an unwarranted and premature act. At no time was some form of mediation tried or given a chance to succeed. The foreign military intervention sets a bad precedent of interference in our countries and holds the spectre of widespread and unnecessary bloodshed and loss of life.

We insist that whatever provisional or interim government is installed as a consequence of the invasion be a broad-based one reflecting the interests of all classes and groups in Grenada. Specifically, we are opposed to any attempt by the United States to put into power a puppet government which would be servile to its interests.

In the context of the invasion, we await an urgent clarification from the Government of Saint Vincent and the

Grenadines on its role in this invasion particularly so in the light of the previous denial by Hon. Hudson Tannis of any involvement of Vincentian security personnel in the planned invasion.

The MNU notes the strong opposition of the United States Government to repeated calls by the international community for military intervention in racist and violent South

Africa where thousands of Africans are brutalised and murdered each year. This contrasts starkly with its eagerness to invade Grenada. We thus deplore this terrible double-standard.

The MNU hopes that in the circumstances bloodshed and loss of life can be kept to a minimum in Grenada. We of the MNU express deep solidarity with the people of Grenada and urge them to continue to struggle under the new dispensation for the original ideals of the March 13th Revolution.



## NDP LEADER MITCHELL COMMENTS ON PARTY'S PROSPECTS

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 27 Oct 83 St Vincent and the Grenadines Anniversary Special p 6

[Text]

MR. JAMES "SON" MITCHELL, opposition leader in the Parliament of St. Vincent and Grenadines, has predicted that there will be general elections in the state by January, 1985.

He said he was basing his prediction on the fact that the electoral process was far from ready. Mr. Mitchell said that the voters' list, which should be in its preparatory stages, had not yet been worked on — except in the constituency where there was a by-election earlier this year.

Asked about the chances of his New Democratic Party (NDP) in the forthcoming general elections, Mr. Mitchell said that they could put a full state of candidates in the field for the 13 elected seats.

But, he said, the NDP had not yet decided if an electoral arrangement would be made with another group or groups.

Mr. Mitchell said that of the four other parties in opposition, the only one that got any degree of support was the United People's Movement (UPM), led by Mr. Ralph Gonzales.

Speaking about a coming together, the opposition leader said: "I am trying to find a common position; I am looking for common ground. It is a question of assessing things as you go along."

He added: "I am not looking for extremes. If we can find a package that is marketable, we will go along with it. If we cannot, we will go by ourselves."

Mr. Mitchell, who has been a parliamentarian in St. Vincent, representing the Grenadines for his 17 years of political life, so far, is the most vocal critic of the Milton Cato government.

He said that the Government was incompetent in many fields. There was, incompetence in carrying out projects, corruption in the government, and indifference on the part of government leaders. Mr. Mitchell said.

He added that civil servants were also disillusioned. He said that the education system in the state was in absolute chaos.

The opposition leader declared: "I do not think we are justly and properly governed. This is the kind

of situation when a government has been in power for a long time.

"They feel they can get away with anything. They feel they can do as they like and nobody is going to move them. The country is crying out for some kind of change," Mr. Mitchell said.

On the controversial Turn Over Tax, (TOT), he said: "It is ridiculous. My party will scrap it whenever we get into power. It is stupid to tax people on the gross of their business."

Turning to the effect the tax would have on foreign investment, Mr. Mitchell said: "The Government is totally insensitive to the criteria required for development and what is necessary to create a climate of confidence in the country."

He said that the Government seemed to invent new methods of taxation.

He said that the tourist industry was a disaster.

Mr. Mitchell was premier of St. Vincent between 1972 and 1974. Before that period, he was a minister from 1967.

CSO: 3298/181

## CATO RULES OUT TALKS WITH BUSINESS ON TURNOVER TAX

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 27 Oct 83 St Vincent and the Grenadines  
Anniversary Special p 8

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER MILTON CATO has said that the attitude of the business community did not encourage any dialogue between that sector and the government on the three percent Turn Over Tax (TOT).

He said that the businessmen had called for the removal of the tax and indicated that they were not prepared to pay it.

That was no invitation for dialogue, he said.

The Chamber of Commerce has been at loggerheads with the government, since Prime Minister Cato, who is also minister of finance, introduced the tax in his 1982/83 Budget Speech.

The tax, at the rate of three percent on the gross takings of a trader's business, became effective on September 1, 1982.

Speaking about the measure in his Budget speech, Mr. Cato emphasised that it was a tax on the gross takings of a trader, and that this should not be taken as an excuse by any trader to increase the mark-up price on any commodity.

He said that government would be vigilant to assure that this was not done.

"To this end", he said, "the staff of the Department of Inland Revenue will be increased and the Price Control Division of the Ministry of Trade and

Agriculture will be given specific instructions to ensure that all traders comply with the regulations."

Secondly, he said, so as not to create a burden on small businesses, the gross takings of the business of a trade up to the first \$3 000 in every month would be exempt from the tax.

The Prime Minister had said that receipts on account of export sales would also be exempt in order to give a further incentive to manufacturers.

Mr. Cato, had pointed out that, as in many cases where new taxes were introduced, he expected that there would be representations for exemption of certain traders and commodities from payment of the tax.

Provision has been made in the legislation to give Cabinet the power to approve such exemptions where it becomes evident that this would be in the best interest of the consumer.

Mr. Cato said that such a tax, which in effect means only three cents out of every dollar — should not prove to be a burden on the traders of the State.

He emphasised that the tax would be deductible for income tax purposes.

The prime minister had anticipated that \$5.8 million would be realised from the measure, which would go a long way to providing some of the social services which the country badly needed.

CATO DENIES OPPOSITION LEADER'S CHARGES OF CORRUPTION

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 27 Oct 83 St Vincent and the Grenadines  
Anniversary Special p 18

[Text]

A CHARGE that Ministers who are lawyers, in the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, are still practising their profession, has been dismissed by Prime Minister Milton Cato as "untrue and unsubstantiated".

The allegation was made by opposition leader, James Mitchell, who said that there was much corruption in the government. Mitchell said: "Ministers are doing their own thing. They don't spend much time in office. Many of them are still keeping their legal offices."

Asked in a **NATION** interview about the charges, Mr. Cato said that they were vague, and they had been made since his government took office a long time ago.

Mr. Cato said that he did not know of any of his

Cabinet ministers who were lawyers, appearing

in court in matters of litigation, nor was he aware of complaints of his ministers being accused of having any conflict of interest.

However, he added that he knew that a number of his ministers who are lawyers, had unfinished business that they had to pass on to other lawyers.

"Obviously", the prime minister, who is also a lawyer said: "they owed a responsibility to their clients to ensure that certain matters were properly passed on."

"I know of no minister who has taken up any new matters which would involve him having a conflict of interest", said Mr. Cato.

On the corruption charges, Mr. Cato described these as "malicious." He said: "I will be the first to deal with corrupt practices within or out of the Government."

## BRIEFS

PLANS FOR GRENADINES--EFFORTS are being made by the government to improve the physical and aesthetic conditions in the Grenadines. Particular attention has been paid to the land transportation needs of the Grenadines. Bequia is now traversed by 12 miles of road suitable for vehicular traffic, along with several connecting feeder roads and tracks. In Union Island, a 1.5 mile main road connects the main villages of Clifton and Ashton from which another four miles of feeder roads radiate in several directions. Mustique has established an excellent network of roads to serve its resort development requirements. Special attention is being paid to health facilities on Union Island. And Canouan is taking on a new look with the development projects. Mustique continues to be the main tourist attraction among the Grenadines. For it has attracted Britain's Princess Margaret who has a holiday home there. Mustique Airways and other light inter-island aircraft provide easy accessibility to Mustique. The company formed in June, 1979, has 10 employees, including three pilots, and is managed by Mr. Jonathan Palmer. [Text] [Bridgetown THE NATION in English 27 Oct 83 St Vincent and the Grenadines Anniversary Special p 6]

CSO: 3298/181

## CONINDUSTRIA TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC MEASURES WITH CANDIDATES

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p 1-15

[Text] The president of Conindustria, Carlos Ramirez Machado, intends to hammer out an urgent pact with the presidential candidates who have the best chances of winning, Jaime Lusinchi (AD) and Rafael Caldera (COPEI), to discuss all possible prescriptions for reviving domestic manufacturing.

According to Ramirez Machado, the next administration must start right away, on 2 February, to apply the corrective measures that the national economy requires, so that production, which has been at a standstill since 18 February, is put back on track.

The president of Conindustria has already talked with Jaime Lusinchi and Rafael Caldera about this. It bears mentioning that since the ruling party's presidential candidate has put forward the names of some of his potential staff, industrialists want to begin making contact with them as soon as possible, especially with the individuals who would have responsibilities in the economic and, specifically, industrial area. They want to do likewise with AD experts.

Ramirez Machado said that extended talks were needed with the two presidential candidates and their advisers about the measures that have to be taken. Conindustria feels that the talks should center on seeking a prompt reactivation of manufacturing, to which end the next administration must have a clear idea of the policies that it will pursue when it takes office.

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CSO: 3348/80

## CENTRAL BANK EXPECTED TO PURCHASE PDVSA BONDS

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p 1-15

[Text] Pursuant to a decision by its Board of Directors, the Central Bank of Venezuela is obliged to purchase in a single installment the 1.7 billion bolivars of mortgage bonds that are owned by PDVSA [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc].

As we had reported earlier, the decision was steamrolled through by the Executive Branch, since both the administration and the president of the Central Bank were opposed to this method of providing the PDVSA with liquidity.

Even though the directors representing the government teamed with the representatives of the private sector to steamroll the move through, the decision was made after lengthy legalistic debates between the president, Leopoldo Diaz Bruzual, and the vice president, Oswaldo Padron Amare, of the Central Bank, on one side, and the representatives of the government and the private sector on the other.

The argument advanced by Diaz Bruzual and the Central Bank administration was that the purchase of the mortgage bonds would detract from the bank's ability to act on the open market. They therefore felt that the best thing would be for the PDVSA to offer discount bonds, which would enable it to raise additional funds without curtailing the Central Bank.

The counterargument was that not all of the documents and papers that the PDVSA could offer were discountable commercial paper.

The matter was finally put to a vote after 3 hours of debate, and the purchase of the mortgage bonds was passed by the majority that had been put together at the meeting that representatives of the government and the private sector had held prior to the Board of Directors session.

The Central Bank is also awaiting an official letter that the PDVSA must submit, informing the bank of its decision to rescind the trust contract.



Upon receiving the bonds that the Central Bank is currently managing, the PDVSA can place them on the exchange market.

There are two types of bonds. One type matures in 1985 and the other in late 1984. In order to provide the PDVSA with more liquidity, the maturity date of the bonds will be moved forward to the first few months of 1984, as the Executive Branch wanted.

Thus, when the Central Bank buys the bonds, the PDVSA will receive 1.7 billion bolivars, which will help it to take care of its liquidity problems this year, while the earlier maturity date of some of its bonds will help next year.

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CSO: 3348/80

## TOURISM MINISTER ISSUES NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE

Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 8 Nov 83 p 4

[Text] Acting as the spokesman of the meeting of the National Security and Defense Council, the Information and Tourism Ministry yesterday issued an official communique, the text of which reads:

"The Ministry of Information and Tourism hereby informs the public that on the evening of Sunday 6 November the National Security and Defense Council met in the presidential residence La Casona under the chairmanship of President Luis Herrera Campins to examine the recent international developments that have appreciably affected the efforts that have been undertaken for peace and harmony among the nations of the Caribbean and Central America. The National Council examined, first of all, the acute world financial crisis that is directly affecting North-South relations, as well as the armed conflicts in various critical spots around the world, which are significantly worsening the already tense relations between East and West.

"World oil problems continue to be directly linked to economic and political factors that have a decisive influence on the variables of production, consumption and prices, which are independent reference points for the oil market.

"The National Security and Defense Council examined the reasons why the region is still beset by a widespread economic crisis. Meanwhile, at the political level, armed conflicts have continued in Central America and especially in the Caribbean (the invasion of Grenada). This suggests that the region has unquestionably become a critical scenario for confrontation between the superpowers, in spite of the efforts by various countries, most importantly those of the Contadora Group, to seek regional solutions to the crisis in the area.

"In the political-military arena, the council also examined the increasing radicalization of the internal crisis, as subversion has been on the rise mainly in the countries near Venezuela. This situation has been aggravated by the recent developments in Grenada, although the meddling of the superpowers with all of their political and military structures had already been clearly demonstrated in an area of vital interest to Venezuela.

"Conscious of the role that it must play both in the world and in the region, the Venezuelan nation will continue striving to help decrease world tensions and to insure a climate of peace and coexistence, factors that are fundamental to achieving the harmonious development of our peoples."

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CSO: 3348/80

## MILITARY INDUSTRY REPORTEDLY EXPANDING

Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 10 Nov 83 p 18

[Article by Martha Aray G.: "Venezuela to Export Munitions"]

[Excerpts] The country is joining the arms race and seeking weapons self-sufficiency. Some 85 percent of the Armed Forces light machine-gun is manufactured domestically. Fifty-six workers are needed to make the barrel of a rifle. Private industry is turning to CAVIM [Venezuelan Military Industries, Inc] for chrome- and zinc-plating and other services. If you own a pistol or a telescope, CAVIM can repair it for you.

With more than 600 million workers worldwide involved in military or paramilitary activities, weapons have become a huge industry.

The industry has just begun to be promoted in Venezuela, and little is known about it so far because of the closed nature of the military. Few people perhaps are aware that there are 140 parts in a light machine-gun. Some 85 percent of them are made in Venezuela, while the rest come from overseas.

Furthermore, the ammunition for these light machine-guns as well as for revolvers, pistols and air pistols is produced domestically.

The new exchange rate situation has helped the military industry in Venezuela. Imported parts are now much more expensive, and a way must be found to produce them domestically; eventually the entire light machine-gun will be manufactured here at home.

Venezuela also assembles the pistols and revolvers of state security agencies and several firearms that they sell to the public as a means of monitoring who owns weapons. A very small percentage of the parts of the firearms are manufactured domestically.

CAVIM is primarily engaged in the production of national defense hardware of all kinds; it also represents national and foreign firms, brings in imports, engages in sales and exchanges and undertakes any other transaction involving military industry-related items.

It does more than just sell weapons, munitions, parts and accessories; it also offers weapons maintenance for the public at large and conducts studies and lends technical assistance in resolving weapons operations problems.

Its metalworking division headquartered in Maracay also offers industry services such as thermal treatments, nonferrous smelting, hard chrome-plating, zinc-plating, phosphate coating, steel bluing, and the manufacture of products and parts in the metalworking branch.

The chemicals division in Moron sells industry items such as dynamite, nitrocellulose, seismic wave generators, ANFO [anful], slurry blasting agents [anfoal], blasting gelatin, hidroven [?] and accesories for explosions.

#### The Creation of CAVIM

It was in 1975 that the military industry as such was defined in Venezuela and the regulations for its development were issued in Special Official Gazette 1,747. Article 6 of the regulations states that the State will see to the development of the military industry through an enterprise that will be established as a corporation whose shareholders will be the Republic of Venezuela and government agencies.

The company was founded in January 1976, with the Defense Ministry holding 85 percent of the shares and the Venezuelan Petrochemicals Institute (IVP) 15 percent. Later, in 1977, the IVP transferred to CAVIM first the Moron installations and then all of its shares except one, which it kept as a symbolic gesture. This entitles it to have a representative on the CAVIM Board of Directors.

CAVIM posted net profits of 33.4 million bolivars in 1982, up 6.3 million from 1981. According to general manager Carlos Ruiz Moreno, an engineer by profession, it hopes "to finish this year in the black as well."

The armaments department is run by Jesus Velazquez, a mechanical and air weaponry engineer, and Lt Col Rafael Martinez Munoz, who is the manager of machine manufactures.

They currently have nine pieces of equipment on the drawing board, which should go into production by next year. This department includes the tooling division, where people try to devise tools that will put out more parts. Fifty-six workers are needed to make the barrel of a light machine-gun, and the investments to produce one part at times run up to 3 million bolivars.

All parts are examined manually by operators, who reject ones with even the smallest defects.

Civilian firearms (portable) can be taken into CAVIM for maintenance, as can optical instruments such as binoculars, theodolites, goniometers, gun sights and telescopes. CAVIM once had to repair a navy gun; it took them 8 months.

The company is thinking seriously about exporting munitions for Magnums, 38 solid patch bullets, and 38 semiwad cutters. It also provides several services to local industry, such as punching, galvanizing, zinc-plating, chrome-plating, phosphate-coating, etc. It does heat treatments and can restore used parts to their original dimensions.

The company has also resumed production of pellets (which had been suspended because of tough competition from imports) and in less than 2 months has put out some 200,000 competition pellets for air rifles and pistols.

The Moron plant manufactures all of the explosives used in the building of roads, in projects such as Guri and for iron mining, as well as the raw material for the paint industry.

CAVIM has thus disclosed the heretofore closely guarded secrets of the military industry.

8743

CSO· 3348/80

## BRIEFS

CALDERA ON BCV, BTV--Rafael Caldera will appoint a new Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Venezuela (BCV) that will "chart the policy," which Leopoldo Diaz Bruzual will have to abide by; otherwise, he will have "to leave." The presidential candidate made this remark on the television program "Ask Caldera," when a women posed this question to him: "If you win the election, will the 'buffalo' continue as president of the Central Bank?" Dr Caldera replied that when he takes office, he would appoint the members of the Central Bank Board of Directors, "and they will chart the policy. And the president of the BCV," he went on to say, "will have to abide by it or leave, because if he doesn't abide by it and doesn't leave, he will be placing himself outside the law. That is how things stand." Caldera had the following to say about what will happen with the people who have deposits in the Banco de los Trabajadores de Venezuela, who according to another citizen "have lost their money": "Let's come to terms here. The people with deposits in the Banco de los Trabajadores have not lost their money. Moreover, everyone wants the culprits in this bank case to be punished, to which end we will have to have Public Ministry prosecutors and attorneys who will see to it that the legal channels function as they should." [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 30 Oct 83 p 1] 8743

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28 DEC. 1983